

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1402

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 35.

EXPANDING CONTRACTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES ACT OF 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 190) to amend the Small Business Act to eliminate the inclusion of option years in the award price for sole source contracts, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 6, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 36]

YEAS—415

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos

Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Correa
Finkenaue
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow

Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenaue
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx (NC)

Frankel
Fudge
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko

Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebbeck
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lowe
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McCormack
McEchlin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeke
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose (NY)
Rose, John W.
Rouda
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz

Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sanchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spano
Speier
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Stivers
Suzuki
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Taylor
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
(NM)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watkins
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—6
Amash
Biggs
Gosar
King (IA)
McClintock
Roy
NOT VOTING—12
Beyer
Green (TX)
Hastings
Jones
Marino
Massie
Mast
Matsui
Payne
Sensenbrenner
Smith (WA)
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1410

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 I missed the following vote:

H.R. 190—Expanding Contract Opportunities for Small Business Act of 2019 (Rep. Marshall—Small Business) Suspension Bill.

Had I been present, I would have voted “YES” on this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule on H. Res. 43 (Roll Call Vote No. 34), I would have voted “aye”.

Had I been present for the vote on H. Res. 43, the Rule Providing for Consideration of H.R. 268—Disaster Supplemental Appropriations Act (Roll Call Vote No. 35), I would have voted “aye”.

Finally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 190—Expanding Contract Opportunities for Small Businesses Act of 2019 (Roll Call Vote No. 36), I would have voted “aye”.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 268, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 43 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 268.

The Chair appoints the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1416

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole

House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 268) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, with Ms. NORTON in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

The gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, while President Trump continues to keep our government shut down, House Democrats are committed to working for the American people. I am pleased to present legislation today that helps meet the urgent needs of our fellow Americans affected by recent national disasters.

Across the country, we have watched as hurricanes have pummeled Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas; wildfires have burned large swaths of the West;

volcanoes have erupted in Hawaii; and typhoons have struck territories in the Pacific. In addition to the tragic loss of life, families have lost everything. Businesses have been upended. Communities have been ripped apart.

This legislation attempts to meet these needs with \$12.14 billion in emergency spending. It includes \$2.96 billion to rebuild damaged infrastructure to help communities rebuild and to bring local economies back to life.

The legislation embraces the unique needs of farmers and rural communities, providing \$1.86 billion to help them recover.

It enhances our national security and cares for our veterans and their families by funding \$1.46 billion for repairs and rebuilding of damaged Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.

The bill before us meets the complex needs of disaster victims, with \$555 million for social services, mental healthcare, education, and activities that improve the prospects of displaced workers.

Importantly, and unlike Republican legislation that was brought up in December, the bill meets the urgent healthcare and nutrition needs of Americans in the Northern Marianas, Guam, American Samoa, and, yes, Puerto Rico.

President Trump grossly mismanaged the response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico, and since then, he has added insult to injury by repeatedly trying to shortchange our fellow U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico. This bill rights that injustice.

Finally, this legislation recognizes scientific reality and the simple fact that climate change is increasing the number and severity of national disasters. It includes \$2.54 billion in resiliency funding to mitigate damage from future disasters, preventing loss of life and damage to property.

We all want to ensure that American families and communities have the resources they need to recover from recent national disasters.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
(Amounts in thousands)

Bill

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Programs

Processing, Research and Marketing

Office of the Secretary

Office of the Secretary (emergency).....	1,105,442
Crop insurance purchasing requirements (emergency)	5,000

Total, Office of the Secretary.....	1,110,442

Farm Service Agency

Emergency Forest Restoration Program (emergency).....	480,000
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Natural Resources Conservation Service

Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (emergency).	125,000
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Rural Development

Rural Community Facilities Program Account (emergency)	150,000
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General Provisions - This Title

Grant for Puerto Rico (Sec. 101) (emergency).....	600,000
Grant for Northern Marianas (Sec. 102) (emergency)....	10,200
Crop insurance purchasing requirement (Sec. 103)	
(emergency).....	2,000
Exempt AGI provisions (Sec. 104) (emergency).....	2,000
	=====

Total, title I.....	2,479,642
	=====

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Economic Development Administration

Economic Development Assistance Programs (emergency)..	600,000
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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Operations, Research, and Facilities (emergency).....	120,570
Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (emergency)..	25,000
Fisheries Disaster Assistance (emergency).....	150,000

Total, Department of Commerce.....	895,570
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

United States Marshals Service

Salaries and Expenses (emergency).....	1,336
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Federal Prison System

Buildings and Facilities (emergency).....	28,400

Total, Department of Justice.....	29,736
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SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
(Amounts in thousands)

Bill

RELATED AGENCIES	
Legal Services Corporation	
Payment to the Legal Services Corporation (emergency).....	15,000
	=====
Total, title II.....	940,306
	=====
TITLE III	
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE	
Operation and Maintenance	
Operations and Maintenance, Marine Corps (emergency).....	200,000
Operations and Maintenance, Air Force (emergency).....	400,000
	=====
Total, title III.....	600,000
	=====
TITLE IV	
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY	
Corps of Engineers - Civil	
Investigations (emergency).....	35,000
Construction (emergency).....	715,000
Mississippi River and Tributaries (emergency).....	225,000
Operation and Maintenance (emergency).....	245,000

Total, Corps of Engineers.....	1,220,000
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR	
Central Utah Project	
Central Utah Project Completion Account (emergency)...	350
Bureau of Reclamation	
Water and Related Resources (emergency).....	15,500

Total, Department of the Interior.....	15,850
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	
Energy Programs	
Electricity Delivery (emergency).....	15,500
	=====
Total, title IV.....	1,251,350
	=====

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
(Amounts in thousands)

Bill

TITLE V

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

Coast Guard

Operations and Support (emergency).....	46,977
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements (emergency).....	476,755
Environmental Compliance and Restoration (emergency).....	2,000
	=====
Total, title V.....	525,732
	=====

TITLE VI

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Construction (emergency).....	82,400
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National Park Service

Historic Preservation Fund (emergency).....	50,000
Construction (emergency).....	78,000

United States Geological Survey

Surveys, Investigations, and Research (emergency).....	98,500
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Departmental Offices

Insular Affairs

Assistance to Territories (emergency).....	2,000
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Office of Inspector General

Salaries and Expenses (emergency).....	1,000
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Total, Department of the Interior.....	311,900
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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Science and Technology (emergency).....	600
Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program (emergency).....	1,500

State and Tribal Assistance Grants:

Categorical Grants (emergency).....	62,500
Clean Water State Revolving Fund (emergency).....	314,300
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (emergency).....	535,100

Subtotal, State and Tribal Assistance Grants..	911,900
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Total, Environmental Protection Agency.....	914,000
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RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Forest and Rangeland Research (emergency).....	1,000
State and Private Forestry (emergency).....	2,000
National Forest System (emergency).....	63,960

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
(Amounts in thousands)

	Bill

Capital Improvement and Maintenance (emergency).....	36,040
Wildland Fire Management (emergency).....	720,271

Total, Forest Service.....	823,271
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	
National Institutes of Health	
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (emergency).....	1,000

Total, Related Agencies.....	824,271
	=====
Total, title VI.....	2,050,171
	=====

TITLE VII

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

 Employment and Training Administration

Training and Employment Services (emergency).....	50,000
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 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
 Administration

Health Surveillance and Program Support (emergency)...	30,000
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 Administration for Children and Families

Social Services Block Grant (emergency).....	250,000
Transfer to Inspector General (transfer out).....	(-1,000)

Children and Families Services Programs (emergency)...	60,000
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Total, Administration for Children and Families.	310,000
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Office of Inspector General (by transfer).....	(1,000)
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Total, Department of Health and Human Services..	340,000
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 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Education Recovery (emergency).....	165,000
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 General Provisions - This Title

Grants to Northern Marianas for Medicaid (Sec. 701) (emergency).....	52,000
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Total, title VII.....	607,000
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TITLE VIII

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

 Government Accountability Office

Salaries and Expenses (emergency).....	10,000
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SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
(Amounts in thousands)

Bill

TITLE IX

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Military Construction

Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps (emergency).....	115,000
Military Construction, Air Force (emergency).....	700,000
Military Construction, Army National Guard (emergency).....	42,400

Total, Department of Defense.....	857,400

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Veterans Health Administration

Medical Facilities (emergency).....	3,000
=====	
Total, title IX.....	860,400
=====	

TITLE X

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Transit Administration

Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program (emergency).....	10,542
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Federal Highway Administration

Emergency Relief Program (emergency).....	1,650,000

Total, Department of Transportation.....	1,660,542

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Community Planning and Development

Community Development Fund (emergency).....	1,160,000
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Total, title X.....	2,820,542
=====	

Grand total (emergency).....	12,145,143
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Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I rise today on H.R. 268, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019.

On December 20 of last year, the House considered a bill that included a continuing resolution to keep the government open, more than \$5 billion to secure our southern borders, and a supplemental appropriation to help disaster-affected areas. That bill passed the House, but it was not taken up by the Senate.

As it did in December, the bill before us today also includes funding for disaster relief. In fact, it includes \$4.3 billion more for communities recovering from national disasters, including storms and other events that occurred in 2017 and 2018. This would help the American people get back on their feet after these devastating events.

The bill also includes help for farmers and ranchers for crop and commodity losses, assistance for flood and storm damage, and allows our military and Federal agencies to repair facilities and assets.

Like it did in December, the bill we are considering today also includes a continuing resolution to fund the government and ensure that our hard-working Federal employees are paid.

What this bill does not include is funding for border security needs identified by the agents and officers on the front lines. Therefore, the bill before us today will not resolve the government shutdown. It will not reopen the government and ensure that our TSA screeners, our Coast Guard defenders, our Border Patrol agents, and our air traffic controllers are paid.

We must stop wasting time voting on bills that have no chance of becoming law. We should, instead, work with urgency to get our government back up and running. In order to do that, we must address border security and funding for the remaining appropriations bills.

I thank Chairwoman LOWEY for her work, and I am hopeful that in the coming days, together, we can come to an agreement with all of our partners in the Senate, the House, and the White House to address the remaining funding issues in 2019.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to my friend from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), the chair designee for the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I thank my dear friend, the chair of the Appropriations Committee, for yielding me this time.

Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 268, the emergency disaster recovery package.

National disasters across our Nation devastated the lives of millions of Americans this past year. A few ranked as the worst and most severe incidents around the world.

It is the top responsibility of Congress to provide these hard-hit communities with the strength, hope, and support to recover. This supplemental will provide necessary aid to these ailing communities.

This Nation needs a better strategy to mitigate damage in future disasters, especially as year after year we see accelerating numbers and severity of national disasters due to climate change. This bill also includes funds for future mitigation.

From our subcommittee's energy and water accounts, we have seen recent hurricanes and storms devastate existing infrastructure. Included in this supplemental is \$470 million to repair damages at Army Corps of Engineer projects across our Nation.

Given the Corps' important role to help protect communities nationwide and in the territories against national disasters, we also included \$750 million for the Army Corps to accelerate construction on flood risk mitigation projects.

Americans should not have to worry whether their community can provide adequate power to our homes and businesses, but across our Nation, fire- and flood-ravaged communities need funds to repair extensive damage and to strengthen electric grids. This bill ensures the Department of the Interior and Department of Energy have the resources needed for this assistance.

Now, let me be clear. This administration has considered reprogramming funds appropriated for disaster recovery projects. These funds are appropriated to rebuild and strengthen America's resiliency against future disasters. They are intended to protect American families and communities from natural disasters.

I am actually appalled that this administration would raid money for communities broken from actual disasters.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio.

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, in conclusion, this nation must confront, head-on, the reality of strengthening storms. We must help all communities recover from disasters, as we never know when it will hit our own backyard.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the disaster package.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT).

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Chair, I thank the ranking member.

I originally had intended to offer my support for this disaster supplemental package, especially as it relates to agricultural and rural development. But because of the actions of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I can no longer support the bill in its current form.

As the former chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture,

Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, I worked with my friends and the new chairman, SANFORD BISHOP, and other Members who represent districts impacted by historical weather-related disasters to provide relief to the farming and rural communities.

However, including the already-failed CR in the rule puts partisan politics above bipartisanship. I cannot support this poison-pill package, especially after all we have heard from our Democratic colleagues about letting the legislative process work.

Members from the Southeast to California, to Hawaii, to all of the communities in between represent districts with agriculture and rural constituencies that have suffered devastating losses in their livelihoods. From cotton to vegetables, to livestock, to losses in my home State of Alabama, as well as Georgia, Florida, and North Carolina, including South Carolina, means lost income now and lost income for the future.

Unfortunately, constituents are being used politically as human shields. Everyone in Democratic leadership knows the President will veto this CR, and it is very unfortunate to have this in the rule.

□ 1430

Our farmers put food on our tables and clothes on our backs. They put in countless hours of labor and take risks. Putting the CR in this bill is making it 100 percent veto bait.

Madam Chair, I encourage my colleagues to do the right thing and take out the CR, and let the bill proceed to the Senate with a chance of passage.

Madam Chair, when Superstorm Sandy ravaged the Northeast in 2012, the House put aside partisan differences and provided \$750 billion. I hope that our Democratic colleagues would look at that and do the same.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), who is the chair-designee of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this legislation, to provide \$12 billion in critical disaster relief for North Carolina and other States recovering from devastating natural disasters.

Last year, Hurricane Florence made landfall in the Carolinas with a powerful storm surge, intense rainfall, and massive flooding. It displaced thousands of individuals, many of whom still have not returned to their damaged homes. Dozens of communities in eastern North Carolina, some also hit by Hurricane Matthew in 2016, were entirely inundated for the second time in as many years.

Meanwhile, other States like Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and California have been hit by terrible hurricanes and wildfires. Puerto Rico and other territories continue to slowly recover from powerful storms and typhoons.

This legislation will ensure that the Federal Government remains an active partner in the recovery effort. It provides more than \$1 billion in flexible funding for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program, including resources for mitigation and resiliency projects.

The bill would clear out a \$1.5 billion backlog of emergency highway and bridge repair projects, and it provides additional supplemental funds for Army Corps construction projects along our coasts and rivers, crop and livestock assistance for farmers, repairs at damaged military installations, and other critical recovery activities.

It reflects bipartisan priorities and ensures that American citizens, regardless of where they live, get the assistance they need to recover.

Unfortunately, disaster assistance, including funds that have already been appropriated, will not be distributed to communities if this government shutdown continues.

Madam Chairman, I urge my colleagues to support this disaster supplemental, which appropriately includes a provision to temporarily reopen government.

The Trump shutdown has real consequences, Madam Chairman. The people of North Carolina and other States who have suffered from natural disasters cannot wait any longer. It is time for Congress, Democrats and Republicans alike, to come together to end this shutdown.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY).

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Chair, first, I thank Mrs. LOWEY—this is, I think, the first time that we have had a chance to dialog publicly—for her leadership and congratulate her as the new Appropriations chair. I congratulate the gentlewoman, and we look forward to working with Mrs. LOWEY.

I also want to thank the Republican leader, our ranking member of the committee, Ms. GRANGER, for her steadfast leadership and help in navigating so many essential issues that are before us today.

Madam Chair, I want you to know that I support the underlying bill without the complicating amendments and urge its passage.

I believe that this is a good bipartisan piece of legislation to help those negatively affected by serious and devastating weather events that have occurred throughout the previous year, and we should be working together to provide the needed disaster assistance and unite to rebuild communities damaged by these hurricanes, typhoons, and earthquakes, as well as volcanoes.

But let us be honest. This bill would sail through the Congress—it would sail through this body—if we could get past the paralysis of this moment that is dividing Democrats from Republicans, the Speaker from the President, the House from the Senate, and on and on.

Let's put all of those considerations aside for just a moment and provide the needed support to our agricultural communities who are hurting and those who are in need.

As the new ranking member of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I want to speak briefly to an important number of provisions in the underlying bill.

It provides financial support to farmers and producers from the Pacific Islands to California and to the Southeast States who have lost crops, trees, and livestock, and so much more. It provides funds for essential conservation efforts in our rural communities to rebuild the watersheds and funds to restore the land in order to prevent future flooding that is so devastating.

The bill provides financial support to forestlands for their restoration, some of which have been wiped out by the strongest storms recorded in several parts of the United States.

The bill also provides nutritional assistance to those who are vulnerable among us.

These are all reasons that we need to put momentary difficulties aside and pass the underlying piece of legislation. I suggest that we move this bill as quickly as possible and keep it separate from the amendments that will delay its implementation.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Chair, I rise to speak on behalf of the bill before us.

Madam Chair, on October 10, 2018, Hurricane Michael, one of the most powerful storms to make landfall in the U.S., slammed into the Florida Panhandle, then directly into Georgia, and drove through much of the Southeast. It left a path of destruction all the way up to Virginia. My district, which spans middle and southwest Georgia, took a direct hit.

Across the State of Georgia, small towns and rural communities were devastated, as were production agriculture and forestry. Agriculture is the largest industry in Georgia, driving one in seven jobs. Many producers suffered near 100 percent crop losses.

Hurricane Michael destroyed some 97 chicken houses and killed more than 2 million chickens. It devastated the Georgia cotton crop, which was nearing peak harvest and was on track to be the best season in years.

Unfortunately, this is all too familiar for the region. This is the third straight year hurricane damage has caused significant losses to the pecan, peanut, cotton, vegetable, forestry, landscaping, and agritourism industries.

Less than a month before Hurricane Michael, Hurricane Florence crashed into the Carolinas, causing \$22 billion

in damage. The agricultural losses there are also overwhelming. Several lagoons responsible for containing animal waste were breached and are in drastic need of repair.

Last year, California witnessed yet another devastating fire season, including both the largest and deadliest fires on record. In Hawaii, volcanic activity caused farmers nearly \$30 million in damage. Americans in the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa were also hit by violent storms.

This disaster supplemental bill provides the funds to begin addressing these needs. This bill increases payments for losses from 85 to 90 percent for producers with crop insurance and from 65 to 70 percent for producers without insurance. It also includes \$150 million for the rural community facilities program. From debris removal to the repair of local infrastructure, such as drinking water and water systems, small communities across the Nation and the territories often struggle to rebuild in the aftermath of natural disasters.

The legislation includes \$480 million for the Emergency Forest Restoration Program and \$125 million for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. It provides \$600 million in funds for the nutrition assistance program in Puerto Rico and \$10.2 million to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

From coast to coast and beyond, there is an urgent need for this disaster bill. As I said in October after touring the damage from Hurricane Michael, responding to natural disasters and helping our communities recover is a responsibility we all share, regardless of geography, ideology, or political affiliation.

Madam Chair, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill and to bring relief to our communities that continue to recover and rebuild. Let's open the government and get this job done for the American people.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD).

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Chair, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Madam Chair, I rise again today in opposition to the political ultimatum that has poisoned this bill.

I had anticipated that I would support Chairwoman LOWEY's proposal to provide disaster relief to American families struggling to rebuild from recent disasters like Hurricane Michael that devastated my home State of Florida.

I do thank her and her staff for the hard work that they have done in putting together this disaster relief bill. However, in the dark of night, the majority leadership slipped into this bill another continuing resolution that they know will hold this bill back from ever becoming signed into law.

Some on the other side have asked why adding a CR would be a poison pill

in this measure. The answer is really simple: This bill will never be considered by the Senate or signed by the President. Leadership knows this, but they continue to place politics over helping hardworking, taxpaying American citizens.

So what are we here to accomplish? Is the majority trying to help American citizens recover or simply content to blame the President while punishing hardworking taxpayers who have been devastated by natural disasters, including those, by the way, in the Speaker's home State of California? Those folks are desperately in need of this relief as they recover from devastating wildfires.

Instead of doing the right thing and passing a clean disaster relief bill, the other side of the aisle continues to play childish games in an effort to resist the President's call for border security.

If the goal of this bill is to provide disaster relief, why on Earth would the majority attach something that effectively ensures its defeat?

Madam Chair, this move has again effectively victimized those devastated by hurricanes and fire.

It is time to accept the reality of the situation in which we find ourselves. Compromise is the only path forward. President Trump has made clear, I believe, that he is ready to negotiate and to compromise. But this bill before us today could have provided much-needed relief to Florida families recovering from Hurricane Michael. It is not just those families who will suffer. It is the Florida farmers who had their crops decimated by the storm, and the Americans who rely on them, who will suffer also.

Madam Chair, we are 26 days into this shutdown, and leadership is still playing these games. If the majority is serious about providing disaster relief, bring a clean supplemental funding bill to the floor and stop playing games with so many hurting American lives.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I appreciate the gentleman from Florida's remarks, but I remind the gentleman that we can't deliver this essential disaster aid with the government closed. So I suggest the gentleman urge those who are keeping the government closed that we must deliver this aid, so open the government now, and we can have some adult conversation.

Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who is a senior member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Chair, first of all, I thank our chair for yielding, for her tireless leadership, and for reminding us very clearly that we need to open up the government right away.

As a Representative from northern California, let me just say that I remember vividly the Oakland Hills fire in 1991 that killed 25 people and destroyed more than 3,000 homes, and the 1989 earthquake that killed many people and devastated many parts of my city. I represent Oakland and Berkeley,

California. Just as many helped us then, we will help our neighbors now.

Disasters can impact any district. Just this morning, a small earthquake hit my district again. Thankfully, there are no reported injuries.

Let me also say that I am deeply grateful to our firefighters and first responders who work around the clock to help save lives in disasters that have ravaged our country, especially this past year.

Madam Chair, I am in strong support of this emergency supplemental, which provides \$12.1 billion in disaster relief to people who have been impacted by wildfires, hurricanes, typhoons, and other natural disasters. Our neighbors in Paradise, California; Puerto Rico; Guam; Florida; southern California; the Virgin Islands; and the territories all need our help, and they need it now.

Northern California's most recent wildfire known as the Camp fire is the most destructive in California's history. Eighty-five people lost their lives, and 13,000 homes were destroyed. These families have lost everything, and they deserve our support now more than ever. Many of these communities in California ravaged by wildfires are only just beginning to recover, yet just last week, President Trump threatened to withhold disaster assistance to California.

□ 1445

Does this President have no shame, bullying scared families with no homes and communities to return to? Real leaders help families recover.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield the gentlewoman an additional 30 seconds.

Ms. LEE of California. Real leaders help families recover and rebuild. They don't use suffering families as political pawns.

Madam Chair, that is why we need to pass this bill. With the \$12 billion provided in this bill, our communities will be able to recover and rebuild, and families will finally get some peace of mind knowing that we are with them.

I urge my colleagues to vote yes on the bill and yes to helping our communities get back on their feet.

The CHAIR. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the chair designate of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this funding package, and I am pleased that, within the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee's jurisdiction, the bill provides more than \$2 billion for recovery from devastating natural disasters.

This includes \$849 million to rebuild drinking water and wastewater sys-

tems to a state of resiliency against future storms, \$50 million for coastal resiliency projects to reduce ecosystem and community vulnerability to help with sea level rise and with the flooding and erosion caused by storms.

The bill provides funds to repair Federal facilities that were destroyed or damaged, such as the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory, funds for historic preservation grants to repair culturally significant sites and properties, and funds to clean up hazardous and solid waste sites.

A critical provision in this bill provides \$720 million to fully repay the U.S. Forest Service for funds it was forced to borrow in the last fiscal year to cover the cost of wildland fire suppression. An additional \$103 million will help the Forest Service to address damage to national forests and treat hazardous fuel loads.

This emergency funding is in sharp contrast to the President's threats to block disaster response funds to Californians who are struggling to restore their lives and to return to their homes after the devastating fires of last year.

I have just heard from a friend that he is being evacuated now because of potential mudslides because of the burnt area in the Malibu part of California.

Americans in all of our States and territories deserve Federal support so they can recover from natural disasters, and our government agencies have to be open in order to ensure the delivery of these important emergency funds.

Democrats are proud to bring this bill to the floor to help our communities who have suffered from these natural disasters and want to begin to rebuild and heal in their lives.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Madam Chair, it is no surprise that many of the communities we represent are in need of disaster assistance. This past year, many areas of the country experienced devastating disasters that had significant impacts on communities and on our constituents.

I have the honor and privilege of representing coastal Georgia, a vibrant area that has suffered from a number of these incidents in recent years.

I was elected and sent here, like everyone else in this body, to look out for my constituents and their needs. That includes advocating for support following these devastating events.

In December, the House passed a supplemental appropriation package that encompassed disasters such as hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, and other disasters. That package would have brought about the relief we need.

Now, Democrats are holding disaster assistance hostage with this legislation. We can't afford to continue this

partisanship when it comes to rebuilding our communities.

Whether it is a wildfire or a hurricane, relief is needed urgently. That includes coastal Georgia.

For instance, our blueberry growers have taken some devastating losses over the last few years. Those growers have not had time to properly recover, and now we are dealing with partisan games that will jeopardize their ability to receive much-needed aid.

Agriculture represents the heart and soul of many of our rural communities, and with that so go those communities.

Now is not the time to derail this desperately needed relief. We need a clean disaster package that will allow us to take care of the communities that are hardest hit.

Hurricanes don't see political parties, and they certainly don't discriminate on the damage they cause. That is why we should move a package that is devoid of any partisan efforts and bring up a clean disaster package.

I say to my Democratic colleagues: Now is the time to stop playing games. Let's move a bill that helps, rather than hurts, the ability of our communities to receive disaster relief.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the chair designate of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of Appropriations.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this essential emergency supplemental appropriations bill.

H.R. 268 totals \$12.14 billion in emergency disaster appropriations funding to provide relief and recovery assistance for Americans affected by recent hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, and other natural disasters, especially in my home State of Florida.

The MILCON-VA portion of the bill provides \$360.4 million for Department of Defense military construction needs and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Specifically, the bill includes \$115 million for the Marine Corps to begin planning for construction projects related to the devastation left behind by Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Marine Corps facilities in North Carolina at New River, Cherry Point, and Lejeune.

The Marine Corps is planning facility consolidation efforts as a result of the severe damage, and this funding represents the first step in a vital rebuilding process for the Marine Corps.

Mr. Chair, the bill also includes \$700 million to begin the rebuilding of Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida's Panhandle. This funding will support the relocation of the F-22 mission and the bed-down of F-35s, along with the planning for new facilities there.

This funding is a crucial first step to begin the necessary rebuilding of Tyndall, which we will rebuild.

Mr. Chair, I also want to point out that this funding for Tyndall and North Carolina is just a down payment. Congress is going to need to provide much more support to get these locations back on their feet, and this administration should take the time to address these real emergencies and not the ones they have manufactured.

Finally, this bill includes a continuing resolution to reopen our government, which is now in its 26th day of being shut down. Mr. Chair, as I said just yesterday, the Trump shutdown is continuing to inflict serious financial pain and anxiety on families, businesses, and communities across the United States.

Opening the government is not a poison pill. It is our duty. This legislation will enable the areas affected by the hurricanes to begin to rebuild the communities and military installations that are vital to our national defense and those local economies, as well as provide relief to 800,000 Federal workers and their families who are living under a cloud of economic insecurity right now.

Mr. Chair, I urge all Members of this body to cast a yes vote.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE).

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Chair, I hail from the Seventh District of South Carolina, and for 3 days in September the Nation was rapt as Hurricane Florence stalled directly on top of my district.

I have eight counties in my district. All eight counties were declared disaster areas. The inland counties were inundated, as North Carolina was, and all the rain that fell in North Carolina and those inland counties comes through five river systems out Georgetown County, South Carolina.

My district was overcome by a slow-motion, rolling disaster. And if that wasn't bad enough, that was the third storm in 4 years. Hurricane Matthew hit us 3 years ago.

With Hurricane Matthew, the Federal Government awarded us \$95 million to rebuild 1,350 houses for indigent families. And, at the speed the Federal Government moves, as of now, 2½ years after the storm, about 400 of those 1,300 homes have been rebuilt, so we have got about 1,000 indigent South Carolinians either gone or living in substandard housing.

Now, in this storm, 12,163 homes were "moderately damaged." I asked the definition of "moderate damage." They said that means that there was water inside the house but it was less than 2 feet deep.

My friends, we also incurred \$200 million of agricultural damage. In these last two storms, our agricultural department didn't even ask for help from the Federal Government, but the farmers are at their wits' end.

A farmer told me that 3 years ago they used their cash, the last storm they used their equity, and now they

are at the end of their rope. We will be losing South Carolina farmers if we don't help these people.

So, I was prepared to support this, and House Republicans passed this disaster bill as part of the supplemental in December.

Now the Democrats bring it back up, and it is subject to opening the government up with no wall funding, and they know full well that the President wouldn't sign it, even if we did pass it.

This is a political game, and they are playing to win. But what they are playing with, the pieces that they are playing with, are hurting people in South Carolina. There are damaged people in South Carolina. They are suffering people who are on their knees.

Three of the counties that were hit the hardest—Marion, Dillon, and Marlboro counties—are some of the poorest counties in South Carolina. Overwhelmingly African American, these people had nothing before the storm, and what little they had has been taken away. And we are using these people as pawns in this fight over the government shutdown.

My friends, enough is enough. It is time to stop playing politics. As my friend across the aisle said earlier: Leaders don't hold people hostage; they find solutions.

And it is time to find a solution. They know full well that, by attaching this continuing resolution to this disaster bill, it will not pass this House, it won't get a hearing in the Senate, and the President won't sign it.

All this is for show. Enough show. Let's deliver this relief to the people who need it.

The storm hit my area September the 14th, 4 months ago. Enough show. Stop using these indigent people as pawns. Enough.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, before I introduce our next, I would like to say to the distinguished gentleman from South Carolina: I agree with the distinguished gentleman from South Carolina. Let's stop this political game. Let's direct our remarks. Let's make clear that the President has the responsibility to open this government and to do it now.

Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Chair, I thank the chairwoman for yielding and for all that she is doing to end the Trump shutdown and open up our government, but I rise today to engage in a colloquy with the distinguished chairwoman of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, Congresswoman ROYBAL-ALLARD, in regard to a commitment made between the two of us.

My district and the State of California were, once again, ravaged by devastating and historic fires. In my own district, the Mendocino complex fire burned a combined total of 460,000 acres, making it the largest physical fire in California history. As a result, a

major disaster declaration was announced for Lake County, which, sadly, has been rocked with fires for the past several years.

California also experienced the deadliest and most destructive fire in our State's history with the Camp fire, which, tragically, took the lives of more than 60 people. The town of Paradise, which was home to almost 27,000 people, was near completely destroyed, and more than 12,000 structures were burnt to the ground.

In addition, our State experienced other devastating fires, and they continue. We need the continued support from the Federal Government because it is essential as residents seek to rebuild and California begins long-term recovery.

In response to these devastating disasters, I offered a bipartisan amendment with Representatives LAMALFA, LIEU, CALVERT, GARAMENDI, HUFFMAN, and 19 other bipartisan cosponsors from our State. This amendment provided much-needed relief to the State of California and local entities by increasing to 90 percent the Federal cost-share for debris removal and emergency assistance for the 2018 wildfires.

The substance of this amendment has been supported by both the Speaker and the majority leader and is consistent with the relief generously provided in the 113th Congress.

□ 1500

The distinguished chairwoman and I have discussed this amendment and the importance of Congress providing this much-needed relief to the State of California and all affected communities impacted by these wildfires.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. SABLON). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I thank Representative MIKE THOMPSON for his diligent work on behalf of his fire-impacted communities and our State. It is critical that Congress ensures that every Federal resource is made available to the States, local governments, and all affected communities of the historic and unprecedented 2018 wildfires.

Ensuring that Californians get the support and resources they need is not a partisan issue. It is particularly frustrating that FEMA has the sole discretion to adjust these cost shares and often does so after catastrophic disasters or when multiple disasters strike the same State in a short period of time, as we have experienced in California. The State of California has requested the administration to adjust these cost shares, unfortunately, to no avail.

I appreciate Mr. THOMPSON's diligent work on this issue. I remain committed to working with him, our leadership, and the bipartisan cosponsors of the amendment to provide, in the Department of Homeland Security's full-year

fiscal year 2019 funding bill, an increased cost share of 90 percent for these additional categories of Federal disaster funding for California communities devastated by the 2018 wildfires.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, in closing, in the meantime, I will work with him and the other members of the California delegation in pursuing this matter with the administration on this reasonable and much-needed adjustment within its existing authority.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Chair, I thank the chairwoman and the bipartisan coauthors of this bill. I look forward to working with her and appreciate her help.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN) for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for yielding and also for the opportunity to bring up an important issue to my district and State.

As you all know, Hurricane Michael had a devastating effect on my district. One of the most important areas in my district that was destroyed was Tyndall Air Force Base.

The underlying bill before the House today contains \$700 million for planning, design, and construction related to the consequences of Hurricane Michael at Tyndall Air Force Base. This funding would support the relocation of the F-22s, the beddown of the F-35s, and the planning of facility construction so that the base can continue to recover.

This is a down payment for the Air Force, and it signals that Congress is committed to rebuilding Tyndall Air Force Base because Tyndall will need additional funds.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. DUNN. I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

As a fellow Floridian, I support the need to rebuild Tyndall, as I just mentioned in my opening statement, and support the Air Force's next-generation aircraft. It is important to ensure that our airmen and their families have state-of-the-art facilities that support the new mission.

I look forward to working with Mr. DUNN and Ranking Member GRANGER as we begin the process to ensure future funding is available to continue this vital reconstruction of Tyndall Air Force Base.

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairwoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for agreeing to work with me going forward to address appropriate funding levels and types of facilities that will be necessary to bring Tyndall back to life.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I thank my colleagues for this colloquy.

Tyndall Air Force Base is vital to Florida and the United States. I look forward to working with the gentleman as well as the gentlewoman of the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee to rebuild this base.

Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman from New York for yielding me the time.

Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 268, a bill to help our country recover from another year of devastating natural disasters.

In 2018, Americans across the country faced extreme hardship due to hurricanes, wildfires, and other catastrophic events. From Hurricanes Michael and Florence in the Southeast to historic wildfires in the West and volcanic activity in Hawaii, no part of our Nation was spared.

Last week, the President responded to these events by callously proclaiming on Twitter that he plans to stop aid to wildfire survivors in California. This behavior is not in the spirit of our great Nation. The funding provided in this bill would show the American people that we stand with them, even if the President does not.

Importantly, in response to Hurricane Maria, it provides \$600 million to Puerto Rico for debris removal and restoration of its electric grid.

Additionally, the bill provides much-needed funding to communities across the Nation for Head Start, farmers who suffered crop losses, and Americans with housing needs.

I have firsthand knowledge of the challenges after a devastating hurricane. It took years and sustained commitment from the Federal Government to help my community recover from Hurricane Katrina. H.R. 268 will help put our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico on a critical path to recovery.

Additionally, I support the McGovern amendment to prevent the President from raiding the Army Corps of Engineers' funds to build his border wall.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Chair, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Today, I rise in support of the Nutrition Assistance Program, or NAP, that is included in the bill under consideration today. NAP is the sole source of nutrition assistance and food security for over 1.3 million American citizens on the island.

After Hurricane Maria, the 115th Congress approved an additional \$1.27 billion increase in Puerto Rico's NAP program in addition to the annual block grant amount of about \$1.8 billion, and that means that we helped a

lot of people who have a lot of necessities.

This disaster relief allowed an increase in the benefits for the current beneficiaries as well as an increased enrollment to bring assistance to close to 153,000 new participants in the program. However, this additional assistance is currently set to be expended in March of this year, and the program's funding would then be lowered again to the base amounts associated with the block grants.

That is why, in May of last year, I submitted an amendment to H.R. 2, also known as the farm bill, to increase the amount of funding allotted to Puerto Rico's NAP.

Then, in December, we got a letter and a meeting asking for the \$600 million in additional NAP funding. During the first day of Congress, we did the same thing to both the Committees of Appropriations and Rules with the same request. I thank the chairwoman of the committee for including that money in this bill.

We had a meeting in December with the Governor of Puerto Rico and the minority leader and the chairwoman asking for this \$600 million increase in Puerto Rico's NAP program, so we really need this money to be included and to be available until fiscal year 2020.

This bill also contains an important provision for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands as well, extending the 100 percent Federal cost share for assistance under the Stafford Act for the disasters in the territories to rebuild to the current standards. That was included in the last provision last Congress.

Having this extension is important in order to maximize the resources. This is critical since the losses caused by these disasters left our communities in no position to cover matching fund requirements, and, believe me, the hurricane was worse than this going down. So this bill, especially, will be important for my constituents.

I am a little bit disappointed that the continuing resolution was attached to the bill. I do support the reopening of the government; however, this should be not the vehicle for it. This disaster supplemental was intended to help people to recover and rebuild from natural disasters.

I really appreciate the good faith effort of all involved here to help those struck by natural disasters—not just in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Florida, but the fires in California as well—especially in Puerto Rico; however, it is my hope that this becomes a clean bill between the House and Senate that can be signed by the President.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the U.S. Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman from New York—her and her staff, as well as the members of the committee—for putting together

this supplemental disaster appropriations, H.R. 268, which seems to address many of the issues that the territories and other areas that have been affected by disaster are continuing to face.

Additionally, it is sending a strong message to the administration about the slow walking and the additional restrictions that they have put in funding that Congress had already passed both here in the House as well as on the Senate side and the President himself sent.

So this disaster supplemental bill contains much-needed support for ongoing disaster recovery efforts in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands, as well as Puerto Rico and other disaster-affected States and territories.

For the Virgin Islands, this bill, as well as for Puerto Rico, addresses Federal cost share for all FEMA public assistance grants, including for debris removal and emergency measures to protect public health and safety—if you can believe, we are still dealing with debris removal—and for permanent infrastructure restoration for the duration of the recovery from Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Additionally, of the funds provided for EPA programs, while I am very pleased to see that \$74.6 million is set aside for the Virgin Islands to improve drinking water and wastewater systems resiliency, this is a very positive relief package for Americans in our island territories still reeling from unprecedented disaster, still reeling from a place where our hospitals are not back in operation and where our children just went back to a full day of school this October after over a year.

I am pleased that the House will be sending a firm message to the administration that its recent decision not to continue the waiver of cost share of public assistance to the Virgin Islands would severely hinder the territory's ongoing recovery.

I also take this opportunity to express my strong opposition to diverting disaster funds to build a border wall, which would create a true national emergency.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Chair, to allow Federal agencies to begin the vital work that we are funding in this bill, we must reopen the Federal Government.

I am pleased that the bill before us includes a continuing resolution to immediately reopen the Federal Government and pay Federal employees, who are going through such a difficult time taking care of their families, putting food on the table, just going through the normal, normal time that families have to endure when they don't have any money to spend. This would pay Federal employees through February 8.

□ 1515

This continuing resolution ensures the Federal Government is working for

the American people, provides certainty for Federal employees, and gives President Trump and the Congress time to negotiate on border security and immigration policy.

Mr. Chairman, this legislation is a critical first step to meeting our fellow citizens' urgent needs as they recover from recent disasters, so I urge my colleagues: Join me in support of this bill.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 268, the Emergency Disaster Appropriations bill.

This bill would appropriate funds for programs supporting communities rebuilding after suffering through numerous natural disasters throughout 2018. My home State of Hawai'i is in particular need of assistance. It was hit hard by multiple devastating storms over the islands and by the sustained eruption of Kilauea Volcano.

Among the impacts on Hawai'i Island by the volcanic eruption were:

716 dwellings destroyed by lava;
Roughly 30 miles of roads covered by lava;
and

About 60,000 earthquakes striking the area from April through August, with the largest a magnitude 6.9 earthquake.

Additionally, Hurricane Lane wreaked havoc across Hawai'i in late August. Up to 50 inches of rain fell in parts of Hawaii Island and 35 inches on the island of Kaua'i. This caused massive unprecedented flooding that these communities in Hawaii continue to deal with.

The natural disasters of the past year affected all parts of our Hawai'i, from major damage throughout O'ahu and the Neighbor Islands to disruption of our tourism and agriculture industries and beyond. These sorely needed funds will assist those affected to recover and carry on with their lives.

The programs and funding in H.R. 268 is a step in the right direction of how government should be working and responding to the needs of our constituents.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill to help residents across the country rebuild and move forward after these devastating natural disasters.

Mr. CASTEN of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I will vote today in support of H.R. 268, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019. Americans have a long history of helping each other in times of emergency and this bill, in that American spirit, provides needed funding to help families and businesses recover from natural disasters.

That said, I am concerned that the bill, in many respects, is a stop-gap measure that defers action on bigger problems. Our disaster funding protocols have historically been predicated on the idea that, when American citizens' face a loss of property due to a rare and unpredictable event, we have a moral obligation to help them rebuild. That is a noble and righteous goal and consistent with this bill.

However, we must also begin to face up to the fact that climate change is creating a situation where disasters are no longer rare, nor unpredictable. We know with certainty where flood risk is intensifying in low-lying coastal regions. We know with certainty where the risks of wildfires are growing.

A review by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of \$1-billion-plus

weather and climate disasters proves the point—such disasters are increasing in frequency and concentrated in very specific regions of the country.

To continue to provide federal funds to encourage rebuilding in those areas is ultimately unsustainable. At some point, those funds will have to be diverted to development on less disaster-prone grounds. That is scary and unfortunate, but we cannot ignore that reality. It is my hope that, as a body, we can begin to develop the strategies to redirect those funds on our terms rather than being compelled to do so by fiscal or natural events.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I can attest to the importance of Emergency Disaster Supplemental Appropriations to the efforts of communities to recover following a disaster.

Texans impacted by Hurricane Harvey and are working towards recovery are grateful for the appropriations provided by Congress to address Emergency Supplemental Appropriations.

We are in the midst of a government shutdown that is unnecessary and wasteful.

Caught in the crosshairs of the government shutdown are eight-hundred thousand hardworking government employees who want nothing more than to do an honest day's work, and be fairly remunerated for their efforts.

More than anyone else, this government shutdown imperils their financial security, which makes our country less strong.

Mortgage and rent payments are going unpaid; credit ratings are being damaged; families are being made more insecure.

This situation requires answers, and resolution for hundreds of thousands of hardworking Americans caught in the middle.

President Trump instead of ending his shutdown is threatening to take Hurricane Harvey Army Corps funding and divert it for the construction of his border wall.

He plans to divert funds appropriated for Hurricanes Harvey, Jose, and Maria recovery to pay for his border wall is outrageous and immoral, and an affront to the millions of Americans affected by real disasters that have struck the homeland.

We need to ensure that the President cannot undermine the disaster recovery projects and programs that Congress has approved and funded by diverting funds for construction of his border wall vanity project.

This President is so easily consumed by concerns over a wall to the point that he cannot see real threats such as the vulnerability of coastal communities to powerful hurricanes.

The people along the Texas Gulf Coast face real threats from hurricanes that are increasingly more violent, and result in catastrophic losses.

The only defense against hurricanes is improving resilience and survivability of communities from wind, storm surge and rain.

We improve coastal resilience against hurricanes by completing Army Corps of Engineer projects that are paid for previously under separate appropriations bills that are now law.

The President wants to use his authority under a National Emergency Declaration to erroneously gain access to the funding so desperately needed for Hurricane Harvey recovery and other disasters.

Declaring a national emergency for purely political reasons is antidemocratic, petulant, dangerous and unbecoming of the President of the United States.

The president and his staff have been routinely and repeatedly corrected and rebuked for their attempts to spread false and misleading information about the state of our southern border.

They have wrongly claimed that the lack of a border wall at the southern border is a major source of drugs coming into the United States, when in fact it is ports of entry.

They disregarded the fact that border apprehensions are at a 45 year-low, and have been dropping since 2000.

Having been defeated legislatively by Speaker NANCY PELOSI, now the President according to a story in the New York Times would like to pay for his immoral border wall by diverting funds that the Congress has appropriated for disaster relief, such as Hurricane Harvey to help citizens in my home state of Texas; victims of Maria in Puerto Rico and other hurricane victims; and victims of deadly wildfires in California.

I support this Disaster Appropriations bill in order to help rebuild communities devastated over the last year by deadly disasters.

Now the President needs to open the Government in order to stop the disaster occurring among our out of work federal employees.

The Acting CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116-2, modified by the amendment printed in part A of House Report 116-2, shall be considered as adopted, shall be considered as an original bill for purpose of further amendment under the 5-minute rule and shall be considered as read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 268

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

That the following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and out of applicable corporate or other revenues, receipts, and funds, for the several departments, agencies, corporations, and other organizational units of Government for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS PROCESSING, RESEARCH AND MARKETING OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For an additional amount for the "Office of the Secretary", \$1,105,442,000, which shall remain available until December 31, 2020, for necessary expenses related to losses of crops (including milk), trees, bushes, and vines, as a consequence of Hurricanes Michael or Florence, other hurricanes, typhoons, volcanic activity, or wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018 under such terms and conditions as determined by the Secretary: Provided, That the Secretary may provide assistance for such losses in the form of block grants to eligible states and territories and such assistance may include compensation to producers, as determined by the Secretary, for past or future crop insurance premiums, forest restoration, and poultry and livestock losses: Provided further, That of the amounts provided under this heading, tree assistance payments may be made under section 1501(e) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 9081(e)) to eligible orchardists or nursery tree growers (as defined

in such section) of pecan trees with a tree mortality rate that exceeds 7.5 percent (adjusted for normal mortality) and is less than 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality), to be available until expended, for losses incurred during the period beginning January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2018: Provided further, That in the case of producers impacted by volcanic activity that resulted in the loss of crop land, or access to crop land, the Secretary shall consider all measures available, as appropriate, to bring replacement land into production: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading and applicable policies of crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) or the Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) under section 196 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 7333) shall not exceed 90 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That the total amount of payments received under this heading for producers who did not obtain a policy or plan of insurance for an insurable commodity for the applicable crop year under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) for the crop incurring the losses or did not file the required paperwork and pay the service fee by the applicable State filing deadline for a noninsurable commodity for the applicable crop year under NAP for the crop incurring the losses shall not exceed 70 percent of the loss as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That producers receiving payments under this heading, as determined by the Secretary, shall be required to purchase crop insurance where crop insurance is available for the next two available crop years, excluding tree insurance policies, and producers receiving payments under this heading shall be required to purchase coverage under NAP where crop insurance is not available in the next two available crop years, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That, not later than 120 days after the end of fiscal year 2019, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress specifying the type, amount, and method of such assistance by state and territory: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the "Emergency Forest Restoration Program", for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, \$480,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE WATERSHED AND FLOOD PREVENTION OPERATIONS

For an additional amount for "Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations", for necessary expenses for the Emergency Watershed Protection Program related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, \$125,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT RURAL COMMUNITY FACILITIES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for the cost of grants for rural community facilities programs as authorized by section 306 and described in

section 381E(d)(1) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence and wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, and other natural disasters, \$150,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That sections 381E-H and 381N of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act are not applicable to the funds made available under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 101. In addition to other amounts made available by section 309 of Public Law 115-72, there is hereby appropriated \$600,000,000 for the Secretary of Agriculture to provide a grant to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for disaster nutrition assistance in response to Presidentially declared major disasters and emergencies: Provided, That the funds made available to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under this section shall remain available for obligation by the Commonwealth until September 30, 2020, and shall be in addition to funds otherwise made available: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 102. In addition to amounts otherwise made available, out of the funds made available under section 18 of Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, \$10,200,000 shall be available for the Secretary to provide a grant to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for disaster nutrition assistance in response to the Presidentially declared major disasters and emergencies: Provided, That funds made available to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands under this section shall remain available for obligation by the Commonwealth until September 30, 2020: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 103. For purposes of administering title I of subdivision 1 of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-123), losses to agricultural producers resulting from hurricanes shall also include losses of peach and blueberry crops in calendar year 2017 due to extreme cold: Provided, That the amounts provided by this section are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 104. (a)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a person or legal entity is not eligible to receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program established pursuant to the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.) if the average adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is greater than \$900,000.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a person or legal entity if at least 75 percent of the adjusted gross income of such person or legal entity is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry related activities.

(b) A person or legal entity may not receive a payment under the Market Facilitation Program described in subsection (a)(1), directly or indirectly, of more than \$125,000.

(c) In this section, the term "average adjusted gross income" has the meaning given the term

defined in section 760.1502 of title 7 Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect July 18, 2018).

(d) The amount provided by this section is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Pursuant to section 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3233), for an additional amount for "Economic Development Assistance Programs" for necessary expenses related to flood mitigation, disaster relief, long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in areas that received a major disaster designation as a result of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and of wildfires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and other natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2018 under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), \$600,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That within the amount appropriated, up to 2 percent of funds may be transferred to the "Salaries and Expenses" account for administration and oversight activities: Provided further, That within the amount appropriated, \$1,000,000 shall be transferred to the "Office of Inspector General" account for carrying out investigations and audits related to the funding provided under this heading.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES

For an additional amount for "Operations, Research, and Facilities" for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Yutu, and of wildfires, \$120,570,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020, as follows:

- (1) \$3,000,000 for repair and replacement of observing assets, real property, and equipment;
- (2) \$11,000,000 for marine debris assessment and removal;
- (3) \$31,570,000 for mapping, charting, and geodesy services;
- (4) \$25,000,000 to improve: (a) hurricane intensity forecasting, including through deployment of unmanned ocean observing platforms and enhanced data assimilation; (b) flood prediction, forecasting, and mitigation capabilities; and (c) wildfire prediction, detection, and forecasting; and

(5) \$50,000,000 for Title IX Fund grants as authorized under section 906(c) of division O of Public Law 114-113:

Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for funding provided under subsection (4) of this heading within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

PROCUREMENT, ACQUISITION AND CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for "Procurement, Acquisition and Construction", \$25,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for improvements to operational and research weather supercomputing infrastructure and satellite ground services used for hurricane intensity and track prediction; flood prediction, forecasting, and mitigation; and wildfire prediction,

detection, and forecasting: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall submit a spending plan to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

FISHERIES DISASTER ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for "Fisheries Disaster Assistance" for necessary expenses associated with the mitigation of fishery disasters, \$150,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds shall be used for mitigating the effects of commercial fishery failures and fishery resource disasters declared by the Secretary of Commerce, including those declared by the Secretary to be a direct result of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses" for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoon Yutu, \$1,336,000: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL PRISON SYSTEM

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For an additional amount for "Buildings and Facilities" for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoon Yutu, \$28,400,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

For an additional amount for "Payment to the Legal Services Corporation" to carry out the purposes of the Legal Services Corporation Act by providing for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, \$15,000,000: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be expended for any purpose prohibited or limited by, or contrary to any of the provisions of, sections 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, and 506 of Public Law 105-119, and all funds appropriated in this Act to the Legal Services Corporation shall be subject to the same terms and conditions set forth in such sections, except that all references in sections 502 and 503 to 1997 and 1998 shall be deemed to refer instead to 2018 and 2019, respectively, and except that sections 501 and 503 of Public Law 104-134 (referenced by Public Law 105-119) shall not apply to the amount made available under this heading: Provided further, That, for the purposes of this Act, the Legal Services Corporation shall be considered an agency of the United States Government.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps”, \$200,000,000, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force”, \$400,000,000, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE IV

CORPS OF ENGINEERS—CIVIL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

INVESTIGATIONS

For an additional amount for “Investigations” for necessary expenses related to the completion, or initiation and completion, of flood and storm damage reduction, including shore protection, studies which are currently authorized or which are authorized after the date of enactment of this Act, to reduce risk from future floods and hurricanes, at full Federal expense, \$35,000,000, to remain available until expended, in States and insular areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and Tropical Storm Gita: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, including new studies selected to be initiated using funds provided under this heading, beginning not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses, \$715,000,000, to remain available until expended, to construct flood and storm damage reduction, including shore protection, projects which are currently authorized or which are authorized after the date of enactment of this Act, and flood and storm damage reduction, including shore protection, projects which have signed Chief’s Reports as of the date of enactment of this Act or which are studied using funds provided under the heading “Investigations” if the Secretary determines such projects to be technically feasible, economically justified, and environmentally acceptable, in States and insular areas that were impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and Tropical Storm Gita: Provided, That projects receiving funds provided in Public Law 115–123 shall not be eligible for funding provided under this heading: Provided further, That for projects receiving funding under this heading, the provisions of Section 902 of the Water Resources Act of 1986 shall not apply to these funds: Provided further, That the completion of ongoing construction projects receiving funds provided under this heading shall be at full Federal expense with respect to such funds: Provided further, That using funds provided under this heading, the non-Federal cash contribution for projects not eligible as ongoing construction projects shall be financed in accordance with the provisions of section 103(k) of Public Law 99–662 over a period of 30 years from the date of completion of the

project or separable element: Provided further, That up to \$25,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be used for continuing authorities projects to reduce the risk of flooding and storm damage: Provided further, That any projects using funds appropriated under this heading shall be initiated only after non-Federal interests have entered into binding agreements with the Secretary requiring, where applicable, the non-Federal interests to pay 100 percent of the operation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and rehabilitation costs of the project and to hold and save the United States free from damages due to the construction or operation and maintenance of the project, except for damages due to the fault or negligence of the United States or its contractors: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES

For an additional amount for “Mississippi River and Tributaries” for necessary expenses to address emergency situations at Corps of Engineers projects and rehabilitate and repair damages to Corps of Engineers projects, caused by natural disasters, \$225,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for “Operation and Maintenance” for necessary expenses to dredge Federal navigation projects in response to, and repair damages to Corps of Engineers Federal projects caused by, natural disasters, \$245,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which such sums as are necessary to cover the Federal share of eligible operation and maintenance costs for coastal harbors and channels, and for inland harbors shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works shall provide a monthly report directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT COMPLETION ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for “Central Utah Project Completion Account”, \$350,000, to be deposited into the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Account for use by the Utah Reclamation Mitigation and Conservation Commission, to remain available until expended, for expenses necessary in carrying out fire remediation activities related to wildfires in 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Bal-

anced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

WATER AND RELATED RESOURCES

For an additional amount for “Water and Related Resources”, \$15,500,000, to remain available until expended, for fire remediation and suppression emergency assistance related to wildfires in 2017 and 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ENERGY PROGRAMS

ELECTRICITY DELIVERY

For an additional amount for “Electricity Delivery”, \$15,500,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, and Super Typhoon Yutu, including technical assistance related to electric grids: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That the Assistant Secretary of Electricity Delivery shall provide a monthly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing the allocation and obligation of these funds, beginning not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

TITLE V

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND

INVESTIGATIONS

COAST GUARD

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Operations and Support” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Lane, Tropical Storm Gordon, and Typhoon Mangkhut, \$46,977,000, to remain available until September 30, 2020: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND

IMPROVEMENTS

For an additional amount for “Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael, Florence, and Lane, Tropical Storm Gordon, and Typhoon Mangkhut, \$476,755,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND RESTORATION

For an additional amount for “Environmental Compliance and Restoration” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Michael and Florence, \$2,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 501. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of assistance provided for DR–4336–PR, DR–4339–PR, DR–4340–USVI and DR–4335–USVI under sections 403, 406 and 407 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b and 5173) shall be 100 percent of the eligible costs under such sections.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The Federal share provided by subsection (a) shall apply to disaster

assistance applied for before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 502. The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may provide assistance, pursuant to section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), for critical services as defined in section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act for the duration of the recovery for incidents DR-4404, DR-4396, and DR-4398 to—

(1) replace or restore the function of a facility or system to industry standards without regard to the pre-disaster condition of the facility or system; and

(2) replace or restore components of the facility or system not damaged by the disaster where necessary to fully effectuate the replacement or restoration of disaster-damaged components to restore the function of the facility or system to industry standards.

TITLE VI

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence, Lane, and Michael, and flooding associated with major declared disaster DR-4365, and calendar year 2018 earthquakes, \$82,400,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of this amount \$50,000,000 shall be used to restore and rebuild national wildlife refuges and increase the resiliency and capacity of coastal habitat and infrastructure to withstand storms and reduce the amount of damage caused by such storms: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

For an additional amount for the “Historic Preservation Fund” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and Typhoon Yutu, \$50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, including costs to States and territories necessary to complete compliance activities required by section 306108 of title 54, United States Code (formerly section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act) and costs needed to administer the program: Provided, That grants shall only be available for areas that have received a major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): Provided further, That individual grants shall not be subject to a non-Federal matching requirement: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CONSTRUCTION

For an additional amount for “Construction” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions, \$78,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH

For an additional amount for “Surveys, Investigations, and Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and calendar year

2018 wildfires, earthquake damage associated with emergency declaration EM-3410, and in those areas impacted by a major disaster declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) with respect to calendar year 2018 wildfires or volcanic eruptions, \$98,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of this amount, \$72,310,000 is for costs related to the repair and replacement of equipment and facilities damaged by disasters in 2018: Provided further, That, not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Survey shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations that describes the potential options to replace the facility damaged by the 2018 volcano disaster along with cost estimates and a description of how the Survey will provide direct access for monitoring volcanic activity and the potential threat to at-risk communities: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

INSULAR AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

For an additional amount for “Technical Assistance” for financial management expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

For an additional amount for “Science and Technology” for necessary expenses related to improving preparedness of the water sector, \$600,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND PROGRAM

For an additional amount for “Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, calendar year 2018 earthquakes, and Typhoon Yutu, \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For additional amounts for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and calendar year 2018 earthquakes for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program, \$1,500,000, to remain available until expended; for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Typhoon Yutu for the hazardous waste financial assistance grants program and for other solid waste man-

agement activities, \$56,000,000, to remain available until expended, provided that none of these funds shall be subject to section 3011(b) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; and for grants under section 106 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, to address impacts of Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Michael, Typhoon Yutu, and calendar year 2018 wildfires, notwithstanding subsections (b), (e), and (f), of such section: Provided, That such amounts are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

For an additional amount for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, \$349,400,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$53,300,000 shall be for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and of which \$296,100,000 shall be for capitalization grants under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: Provided, That notwithstanding section 604(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(a)(1)(D) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds appropriated herein shall be provided to States in EPA Regions 4, 9, and 10 in amounts determined by the Administrator for wastewater treatment works and drinking water facilities impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Yutu, and calendar year 2018 wildfires and earthquakes: Provided further, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, for the funds appropriated herein, each State shall use not less than 20 percent but not more than 30 percent amount of its capitalization grants to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: Provided further, That the Administrator shall retain \$10,400,000 of the funds appropriated herein for grants for drinking water facilities and waste water treatment plants impacted by Typhoon Yutu: Provided further, That the funds appropriated herein shall be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to reduce flood or fire damage risk and vulnerability or to enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or any eligible facilities under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligible tasks at such treatment works or facilities necessary to further such purposes: Provided further, That the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may retain up to \$1,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein for management and oversight: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

In addition, for an additional amount for “State and Tribal Assistance Grants”, \$500,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$261,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and of which \$239,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act: Provided, That notwithstanding section 604(a) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(a)(1)(D) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds appropriated herein shall be provided to States or Territories in EPA Regions 2, 4 and 6 in amounts determined by the Administrator for wastewater and drinking water treatment works and facilities impacted by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria: Provided further, That, for Region 2, such funds allocated from funds appropriated herein shall not be subject to the matching or cost share requirements of sections

602(b)(2), 602(b)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act nor the matching requirements of section 1452(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act: Provided further, That, for Region 2, notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, each State and Territory shall use the full amount of its capitalization grants allocated from funds appropriated herein to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: Provided further, That, for Regions 4 and 6, notwithstanding the requirements of section 603(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, for the funds allocated, each State shall use not less than 20 percent but not more than 30 percent amount of its capitalization grants allocated from funds appropriated herein to provide additional subsidization to eligible recipients in the form of forgiveness of principal, negative interest loans or grants or any combination of these: Provided further, That the Administrator shall retain \$74,600,000 of the funds appropriated herein for grants to any state or territory that has not established a water pollution control revolving fund pursuant to title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act for drinking water facilities and waste water treatment plants impacted by Hurricanes Irma and Maria: Provided further, That the funds appropriated herein shall only be used for eligible projects whose purpose is to reduce flood damage risk and vulnerability or to enhance resiliency to rapid hydrologic change or a natural disaster at treatment works as defined by section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or any eligible facilities under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other eligible tasks at such treatment works or facilities necessary to further such purposes: Provided further, That, for Region 2, notwithstanding section 603(d)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and section 1452(f)(2) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, funds allocated from funds appropriated herein may be used to make loans or to buy, refinance or restructure the debt obligations of eligible recipients only where such debt was incurred on or after September 20, 2017: Provided further, That the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may retain up to \$1,000,000 of the funds appropriated herein for management and oversight: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

FOREST AND RANGELAND RESEARCH

For an additional amount for “Forest and Rangeland Research” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended for the forest inventory and analysis program: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY

For an additional amount for “State and Private Forestry” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, \$2,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

For an additional amount for “National Forest System” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, \$63,960,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

For an additional amount for “Capital Improvement and Maintenance” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, and the calendar year 2018 wildfires, \$36,040,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Wildland Fire Management”, \$720,271,000, to remain available through September 30, 2022, for urgent wildland fire suppression operations: Provided, That such funds shall be solely available to be transferred to and merged with other appropriations accounts from which funds were previously transferred for wildland fire suppression in fiscal year 2018 to fully repay those amounts: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

For an additional amount for “National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences” for necessary expenses in carrying out activities set forth in section 311(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9660(a)) and section 126(g) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 related to the consequences of major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) in 2018, \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

SEC. 601. Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the agencies receiving funds appropriated by this title shall provide a detailed operating plan of anticipated uses of funds made available in this title by State and Territory, and by program, project, and activity, to the Committees on Appropriations: Provided, That no such funds shall be obligated before the operating plans are provided to the Committees: Provided further, That such plans shall be updated, including obligations to date, and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations every 60 days until all such funds are expended.

TITLE VII

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Training and Employment Services”, \$50,000,000, for the displaced workers assistance national reserve for necessary expenses directly related to the con-

sequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, or the California wildfires occurring in calendar year 2018, to remain available through September 30, 2020: Provided, That the Secretary of Labor may transfer up to \$1,000,000 of such funds to any other Department of Labor account for reconstruction and recovery needs, including worker protection activities: Provided further, That these sums may be used to replace grant funds previously obligated to the impacted areas: Provided further, That of the amount provided, up to \$500,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to “Office of Inspector General” for oversight of activities responding to such consequences: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH SURVEILLANCE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

For an additional amount for “Health Surveillance and Program Support”, \$30,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019, for grants, contracts and cooperative agreements for behavioral health treatment, crisis counseling, and other related helplines, and for other similar programs to provide support to individuals impacted by Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and the California wildfires occurring in 2018 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191): Provided, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT

For an additional amount for “Social Services Block Grant”, \$250,000,000, which shall remain available through September 30, 2020, for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and the California wildfires in 2018 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191): Provided, That notwithstanding section 2002 of the Social Security Act, the distribution of such amount shall be limited to States directly affected by these events: Provided further, That the time limits in section 2002(c) of the Social Security Act shall not apply to funds appropriated in this paragraph that are used for renovation, repair or construction: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are in addition to the entitlement grants authorized by section 2002(a)(1) of the Social Security Act and shall not be available for such entitlement grants: Provided further, That in addition to other uses permitted by title XX of the Social Security Act, funds appropriated in this paragraph may be used for health services (including mental health services), and for costs of renovating, repairing, and construction of health care facilities (including mental health facilities), child care centers, and other social services facilities: Provided further, That of the amount provided, up to \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to “Office of the Secretary—Office of Inspector

General” for oversight of activities responding to such hurricanes, typhoons, and wildfires: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance: Provided further, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That up to \$3,000,000 may be used to supplement amounts available for the necessary expenses of administering subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for “Children and Families Services Programs”, \$60,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, for Head Start programs, including making payments under the Head Start Act, for necessary expenses directly related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, and the California wildfires in 2018 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191): Provided, That none of the funds appropriated in this paragraph shall be included in the calculation of the “base grant” in subsequent fiscal years, as such term is defined in sections 640(a)(7)(A), 641A(h)(1)(B), or 645(d)(3) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph are not subject to the allocation requirements of section 640(a) of the Head Start Act: Provided further, That funds appropriated in this paragraph shall not be available for costs that are reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, under a contract for insurance, or by self-insurance: Provided further, That up to \$2,000,000 shall be available for Federal administrative expenses: Provided further, That obligations incurred for the purposes provided herein prior to the date of enactment of this Act may be charged to funds appropriated under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION RECOVERY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Education Recovery” for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael, Typhoon Mangkhut, Super Typhoon Yutu, the California wildfires in 2018, the November 2018 Anchorage Earthquake or the volcanic eruption and earthquakes in Hawaii in 2018 in those areas for which a major disaster or emergency has been declared under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 and 5191) (referred to under this heading as a “covered disaster or emergency”), \$165,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2019: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: Provided further, That such assistance may be provided through any of the programs authorized under this heading in division B of title VIII of Public Law 115–123 (as amended by Public Law 115–141), as determined by the Secretary of Education, and subject to the terms and conditions that applied to those programs, except that references to dates and

school years in Public Law 115–123 shall be deemed to be the corresponding dates and school years for the covered disaster or emergency: Provided further, That the Secretary of Education may determine the amounts to be used for each such program and shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of these amounts not later than 7 days prior to obligation: Provided further, \$2,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading, to remain available until expended, shall be transferred to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Education for oversight of activities supported with funds appropriated under this heading, and up to \$1,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be for program administration.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

SEC. 701. (a) Section 1108(g)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1308(g)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and (E)” and inserting “(E), and (F)”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “and (E)” and inserting “and (F)”;

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F);

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (D), the following:

“(E) Subject to subparagraph (F), for the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending September 30, 2019, the amount of the increase otherwise provided under subparagraph (A) for the Northern Mariana Islands shall be further increased by \$20,000,000.”; and

(5) in subparagraph (F) (as redesignated by paragraph (3) of this section)—

(A) by striking “title XIX, during” and inserting “title XIX—

“(i) during”;

(B) by striking “and (D)” and inserting “, (D), and (E)”;

(C) by striking “and the Virgin Islands” each place it appears and inserting “, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands”;

(D) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) for the period beginning January 1, 2019, and ending September 30, 2019, with respect to payments to Guam and American Samoa from the additional funds provided under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall increase the Federal medical assistance percentage or other rate that would otherwise apply to such payments to 100 percent.”.

(b) The amounts provided by the amendments made by subsection (a) are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 702. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education shall provide a detailed spend plan of anticipated uses of funds made available in this title, including estimated personnel and administrative costs, to the Committees on Appropriations: Provided, That such plans shall be updated and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations every 60 days until all funds are expended or expire.

SEC. 703. The second proviso under the heading “Hurricane Education Recovery” under the heading “Department of Education” under title VIII of subdivision 1 of division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123; 132 Stat. 95) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (I), by striking “and” after the semicolon; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) assistance provided to an eligible entity under this heading, including assistance provided to an eligible entity before the date of en-

actment of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019, may be used by the eligible entity for a purpose described in section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster and Relief Emergency Act (42 U.S.C. 5172), notwithstanding section 102(e)(3) of title IV of division B of Public Law 109–148 (119 Stat. 2794), if the eligible entity will receive funds for that purpose under such section 406; and

“(L) any duplicative Federal assistance provided under this heading to an eligible entity may be retained by the entity and used for other activities to restart school operations in accordance with this paragraph;”;

(2) in paragraph (9), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(3) by redesignating paragraph (10) as paragraph (11); and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (9) the following:

“(10) amounts available under paragraph (4) that exceed the amount required to meet the need for such funds as determined by the Secretary as of December 31, 2018, shall be available to carry out paragraph (3); and”;

Provided, That amounts repurposed pursuant to this section that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE VIII

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for “Salaries and Expenses”, \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended, for audits and investigations related to Hurricanes Florence, Lane, and Michael, Typhoons Yutu and Mangkhut, the calendar year 2018 wildfires, earthquakes, and volcano eruptions, and other disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): Provided, That, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Government Accountability Office shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a spend plan specifying funding estimates for audits and investigations of any such declared disasters occurring in 2018 and identifying funding estimates or carryover balances, if any, that may be available for audits and investigations of any other such declared disasters: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE IX

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Navy and Marine Corps”, \$115,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for planning and design related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael on Navy and Marine Corps installations: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a master plan for the installations and a form 1391 for each specific project: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Navy, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being

for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Air Force”, \$700,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for planning and design, and construction expenses related to the consequences of Hurricane Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive a basing plan and future mission requirements for installations significantly damaged by Hurricane Michael: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for “Military Construction, Army National Guard”, \$42,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael: Provided, That none of the funds shall be available for obligation until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate receive form 1391 for each specific request: Provided further, That, not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Director of the Army National Guard, or his designee, shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such funds may be obligated or expended for planning and design and military construction projects not otherwise authorized by law: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL FACILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Medical Facilities”, \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, for necessary expenses related to the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu: Provided, That the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, upon determination that such action is necessary to address needs as a result of the consequences of Hurricanes Florence and Michael and Typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu, may transfer such funds to any discretionary account of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That before a transfer may take place, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit notice thereof to the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be available for obligation until the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a detailed expenditure plan for funds provided under this heading: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE X

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the “Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program” as authorized under section 5324 of title 49, United States Code, \$10,542,000 to remain available until expended, for transit systems affected by major declared disasters occurring in calendar year 2018: Provided, That not more than three-quarters of 1 percent of the funds for public transportation emergency relief shall be available for administrative expenses and ongoing program management oversight as authorized under sections 5334 and 5338(f)(2) of such title and shall be in addition to any other appropriations for such purpose: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

Of the amounts made available for “Federal Aviation Administration—Operations” in division B of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–123), up to \$18,000,000 shall also be available for necessary expenses related to the consequences of major declared disasters occurring in calendar year 2018: Provided, That amounts repurposed under this heading that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 are designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

For an additional amount for the Emergency Relief Program as authorized under section 125 of title 23, United States Code, \$1,650,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for “Community Development Fund”, \$1,160,000,000, to remain available until expended, for necessary expenses for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster that occurred in 2018 (except as otherwise provided under this heading) pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.): Provided, That funds shall be awarded directly to the State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974) at the discretion of the Secretary: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading that remain available, after the funds under this heading and under the same heading in Public Law 115–254 have been allocated to meet unmet needs for disasters that occurred in 2018, up to \$100,000,000 shall be allocated to meet unmet infrastructure needs for grantees that received allocations for disasters that occurred in 2017 (excluding disas-

ters specified in section 501(a) of title V of this Act) under this heading of division B of Public Law 115–56 and title XI of Public Law 115–123: Provided further, That of the amounts provided in the previous proviso, the Secretary’s unmet infrastructure needs determinations shall not take into account mitigation-specific allocations: Provided further, That any funds made available under this heading and under the same heading in Public Law 115–254 that remain available, after the funds under such headings have been allocated for necessary expenses for activities authorized under such headings, shall be allocated to grantees, for mitigation activities in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster that occurred in 2018: Provided further, That such allocations shall be made in the same proportion that the amount of funds each grantee received under this Act and the same heading in division I of Public Law 115–254 bears to the amount of all funds provided to all grantees that received allocations for disasters that occurred in 2018: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under the text preceding the first proviso under this heading and under the same heading in Public Law 115–254, the Secretary shall allocate to all such grantees an aggregate amount not less than 33 percent of the sum of such amounts of funds within 120 days after the enactment of this Act based on the best available data, and shall allocate no less than 100 percent of such funds by no later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act: Provided further, That the Secretary shall not prohibit the use of funds made available under this heading and the same heading in Public Law 115–254 for non-Federal share as authorized by section 105(a)(9) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(9)): Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, grantees may establish grant programs to assist small businesses for working capital purposes to aid in recovery: Provided further, That as a condition of making any grant, the Secretary shall certify in advance that such grantee has in place proficient financial controls and procurement processes and has established adequate procedures to prevent any duplication of benefits as defined by section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155), to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive websites regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds: Provided further, That with respect to any such duplication of benefits, the Secretary and any grantee under this section shall not take into consideration or reduce the amount provided to any applicant for assistance from the grantee where such applicant applied for and was approved, but declined assistance related to such major disasters that occurred in 2018 from the Small Business Administration under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)): Provided further, That the Secretary shall require grantees to maintain on a public website information containing common reporting criteria established by the Department that permits individuals and entities awaiting assistance and the general public to see how all grant funds are used, including copies of all relevant procurement documents, grantee administrative contracts and details of ongoing procurement processes, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That prior to the obligation of funds a grantee shall submit a plan to the Secretary for approval detailing the proposed use of all funds, including criteria for eligibility and how the use of these funds will address long-term recovery and restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas: Provided further, That such funds may not be used for activities reimbursable by, or for which funds are made available by, the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the Army

Corps of Engineers: Provided further, That funds allocated under this heading shall not be considered relevant to the non-disaster formula allocations made pursuant to section 106 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5306): Provided further, That a State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe may use up to 5 percent of its allocation for administrative costs: Provided further, That the first proviso under this heading in the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (division I of Public Law 115-254) is amended by striking "State or unit of general local government" and inserting "State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302))": Provided further, That the sixth proviso under this heading in the Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018 (division I of Public Law 115-254) is amended by striking "State or subdivision thereof" and inserting "State, unit of general local government, or Indian tribe (as such term is defined in section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302))": Provided further, That in administering the funds under this heading, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for, any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers in connection with the obligation by the Secretary or the use by the recipient of these funds (except for requirements related to fair housing, non-discrimination, labor standards, and the environment), if the Secretary finds that good cause exists for the waiver or alternative requirement and such waiver or alternative requirement would not be inconsistent with the overall purpose of title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: Provided further, That, notwithstanding the preceding proviso, recipients of funds provided under this heading that use such funds to supplement Federal assistance provided under section 402, 403, 404, 406, 407, 408 (c)(4), or 502 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) may adopt, without review or public comment, any environmental review, approval, or permit performed by a Federal agency, and such adoption shall satisfy the responsibilities of the recipient with respect to such environmental review, approval or permit: Provided further, That, notwithstanding section 104(g)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)(2)), the Secretary may, upon receipt of a request for release of funds and certification, immediately approve the release of funds for an activity or project assisted under this heading if the recipient has adopted an environmental review, approval or permit under the preceding proviso or the activity or project is categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.): Provided further, That the Secretary shall publish via notice in the Federal Register any waiver, or alternative requirement, to any statute or regulation that the Secretary administers pursuant to title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 no later than 5 days before the effective date of such waiver or alternative requirement: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, up to \$5,000,000 shall be made available for capacity building and technical assistance, including assistance on contracting and procurement processes, to support States, units of general local government, or Indian tribes (and their subrecipients) that receive allocations pursuant to this heading, received disaster recovery allocations under the same heading in Public Law 115-254, or may receive similar allocations for disaster recovery in future appropriations Acts: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading and under the same heading in Public Law 115-254, up to

\$2,500,000 shall be transferred, in aggregate, to "Department of Housing and Urban Development—Program Office Salaries and Expenses—Community Planning and Development" for necessary costs, including information technology costs, of administering and overseeing the obligation and expenditure of amounts under this heading: Provided further, That the amount specified in the preceding proviso shall be combined with funds appropriated under the same heading and for the same purpose in Public Law 115-254 and the aggregate of such amounts shall be available for any of the same such purposes specified under this heading or the same heading in Public Law 115-254 without limitation: Provided further, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

SEC. 1001. (a) Amounts previously made available for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas resulting from a major disaster, including funds provided under section 145 of division C of Public Law 114-223, section 192 of division C of Public Law 114-223 (as added by section 101(3) of division A of Public Law 114-254), section 421 of division K of Public Law 115-31, and any mitigation funding provided under the heading "Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund" of Public Law 115-123, that were allocated in response to Hurricane Matthew, may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Florence. In addition, any funds provided under the heading "Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund" in this Act or in division I of Public Law 115-254 that are allocated in response to Hurricane Florence may be used interchangeably and without limitation for the same activities in the most impacted and distressed areas related to Hurricane Matthew. Until HUD publishes the Federal Register Notice implementing this provision, grantees may submit for HUD approval revised plans for the use of funds related to Hurricane Matthew that expand the eligible beneficiaries of existing programs contained in such previously approved plans to include those impacted by Hurricane Florence. Approval of any such revised plans shall include the execution of revised grant terms and conditions as necessary. Once the implementing Notice is published, any additional action plan revisions shall follow the requirements contained therein.

(b) Amounts made available for administrative costs for activities authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation in the most impacted and distressed areas under this Act or any future Act, and amounts previously provided under section 420 of division L of Public Law 114-113, section 145 of division C of Public Law 114-223, section 192 of division C of Public Law 114-223 (as added by section 101(3) of division A of Public Law 114-254), section 421 of division K of Public Law 115-31, and under the heading "Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund" of division B of Public Law 115-56, Public Law 115-123, and Public Law 115-254, shall be available for eligible administrative costs of the grantee related to any disaster relief funding identified in this subsection without re-

gard to the particular disaster appropriation from which such funds originated.

(c) The additional uses pursuant to this section for amounts that were previously designated by the Congress, respectively, as an emergency requirement or as being for disaster relief pursuant to the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE XI

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS ACT

SEC. 1101. Each amount designated in this Act by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 shall be available (or rescinded or transferred, if applicable) only if the President subsequently so designates all such amounts and transmits such designations to the Congress.

TITLE XII—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 1201. The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2019 (division C of Public Law 115-245) is further amended by striking the date specified in section 105(3) and inserting "February 8, 2019".

This Act may be cited as the "Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2019".

The Acting CHAIR. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, is in order except those printed in part B of House Report 116-2. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report, equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. BISHOP OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,900,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak on behalf of this amendment, which is cosponsored by my very good friend, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT), and 12 other distinguished Members on both sides of the aisle.

As I said during general debate, Hurricane Michael devastated my district and left a path of destruction all the way up to Virginia. Across the State of

Georgia, many producers suffered nearly 100 percent crop loss. Damages were experienced by the pecan, peanut, cotton, vegetable, and timber industries, and this is the third straight year these folks were hit.

A few weeks before that, Hurricane Florence hit the Carolinas, causing \$22 billion in damage. Last year, Californians witnessed another devastating wildfire season, while Hawaii suffered from volcano damage, the Northern Mariana Islands were hit by typhoons, and American Samoa, by a horrific cyclone.

This disaster supplemental bill provides funds to begin addressing these needs for our agriculture and our rural communities. The bill increases payments for losses from 85 to 90 percent for producers who have crop insurance and from 65 to 70 percent for producers without crop insurance.

Unfortunately, the \$1.1 billion in the bill was based only on USDA's assessment of need, nationwide. However, the various State departments of agriculture, those States that were devastated by these disasters, submitted to the committee assessments which came to over \$7 billion.

To ensure that more of these needs can be fully met, Mr. SCOTT and I put our heads together. We looked at the numbers and concluded that the original estimate by the Department of Agriculture of \$1.1 billion in damages could very well and was, most likely, going to be too low; so we have offered this amendment to increase it by \$1.9 billion, for a total of \$3 billion.

I urge a "yes" vote on the Bishop-Scott amendment. It was needed. We want to make sure that we can do what is necessary to allow Americans who were devastated by these natural disasters to have sufficient recovery.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition, although it is a technical opposition. I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, throughout middle and late October and into the first of November, Congressman BISHOP and I crisscrossed paths many times and sometimes—in fact, many times—ended up in the same room trying to help our farmers. The storm straddled our districts.

I have never seen the devastation to our crops that I saw over those couple of weeks, and that devastation is still there.

I can't thank my colleague, Congressman BISHOP, enough for his work and his help on this amendment. I would also like to thank his staff and the staff of both the Democrats and Republicans on the Appropriations Committee.

The gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ADERHOLT) has been a tremendous

amount of help, as has Ms. GRANGER, and Chairwoman LOWEY on the Democratic side. Mr. MCGOVERN has been a lot of help. A lot of people have reached out and been willing to help those of us in the Southeast, and I can't say thank you enough for that.

Our losses are estimated at over \$5.4 billion for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and the Carolinas.

The underlying text of the bill is good—in fact, I think it is very good—and sets a framework that will be used as we go forward in the years to handle disaster relief for agriculture. The primary problem is that the request of \$1.1 billion currently included in the base text simply does not fund the formula for the losses.

With Congressman BISHOP's help, we have worked to draft the amendment, increasing that amount by \$1.9 billion, to a total of \$3 billion, which I believe, along with Mr. BISHOP, more accurately reflects the need to fund the formula.

I, again, hope my colleagues will support the amendment.

I want to thank Congressman BISHOP and the many others who have worked with us on this.

Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER).

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Chairman, I want to thank my good colleague and friend, AUSTIN SCOTT, for his leadership on this, as well as, certainly, the chairman, Chairman BISHOP from Georgia, whom, by the way, I have heard lots about for many, many years from many mutual friends that he and I both have. I look forward to working with him not only on this, but on many other matters as they come before us.

There is absolutely no question: agriculture all across the Southeast has been significantly damaged, devastated in many, many parts.

In North Carolina, we are still reeling from the hurricane in 2016, Hurricane Matthew. And then, of course, Hurricane Florence came and hit not only the same areas that Hurricane Matthew hit, but hit a much broader area of North Carolina. In fact, why don't we just say it really devastated and inflicted a lot of harm all across eastern North Carolina, this on top of a 5-year decline in farm income not only in North Carolina, but across the country.

So you have had a significant shortfall in income for all these farm families all over the country, North Carolina included.

Then comes Hurricane Matthew in 2016, floods all those out who are in its path. And when I say "floods," I mean a real flood, flooding that you have not seen in many, many years.

And then Hurricane Florence comes in 2018. It is not only the same areas that Hurricane Matthew hit in 2016, but hits a much broader geographical region in North Carolina and elsewhere.

So over the last 5 years, you have not only had a huge decrease in farm in-

come, you have had all kinds of natural disasters—not just in North Carolina, but elsewhere. As a result, all these farm families have lost all their equity. They have no equity left.

Without the disaster recovery package that Congress has previously passed and what we hope to pass eventually here, that is contained in this body of work today, will be a start to rebuild, to enable these folks to cash-flow, to enable them just to get the financing that they need to put in the ground a new crop for the year 2019.

So I commend both of my colleagues for their help and their support on this, and I encourage the rest of the body to join with us and adopt this amendment.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, to close, I just want to reiterate how important it is for us to pass sufficient resources in order to allow these communities that have been devastated all across the United States, as well as the territories, to recover from these natural disasters.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk, and I ask for its consideration.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for the Army Corps of Engineers or Department of Homeland Security may be obligated or expended to plan, develop, or construct a new physical barrier along the Southwest border.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 2 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, I don't get to say this often, but I agree with Senator TED CRUZ. Yesterday, along with members of the Texas congressional delegation, he wrote to President Trump. Part of his letter read: ". . . we are strongly opposed to using funds appropriated by Congress for disaster relief and mitigation for Texas for any unintended purpose."

I agree. Disaster funding should go where Congress intended: to the sites of actual disasters, to communities dealing with things like hurricanes, mudslides, wildfires and floods.

That is what my amendment is all about. It states that none of the funds in this disaster supplemental for the Army Corps of Engineers or Department of Homeland Security may be used to plan, develop, or construct the President's border wall. It is that simple.

If someone like me, a progressive Member of the House, can see eye to eye with Senator TED CRUZ on this, one of the biggest cheerleaders for the President's border wall, then this amendment should pass with broad bipartisan support.

It isn't about whether or not you support building a border wall; it is about whether we support a President moving disaster funding away from where Congress said it should go, away from communities that are rebuilding. These people aren't interested in building a wall. They need to rebuild their homes.

So today, we are talking about President Trump and the wall. But, Mr. Chairman, if we don't take a strong stand against subverting the will of Congress this time, then it opens the door for the next President, Democrat or Republican, to use disaster funding as a piggy bank for their priority, whatever it may be.

I think the border wall would be ineffective and a waste of taxpayer dollars, but you can disagree with me and still support my amendment, because we all should agree that no President should be redirecting funding away from where Congress said it should go.

The supplemental provides \$12 billion in disaster relief for communities trying to rebuild. Let's make sure every penny actually goes to disaster relief.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR (Ms. PLASKETT). The gentlewoman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, the funds in this bill, especially those funds for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Coast Guard, are specifically for repairing storm damage in our communities. The agencies have identified specific projects and calculated estimates to bring our infrastructure and agency assets back to full operation.

Not a single paragraph in the bill before us includes funds for a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border, yet this amendment restricts funds for this purpose.

My colleagues, this amendment walks away from all the good work Chairwoman LOWEY tried to do for the Corps and the Coast Guard and blocks the necessary border investments required in a final compromise.

Unfortunately, this amendment will be viewed by many of my colleagues as a poison pill. It ignores investments that those on my side of the aisle believe are necessary to fund a way forward, that will provide disaster funds, address the border crisis, and reopen the government.

I urge a "no" vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1530

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Chair, I include in the RECORD a letter to the President from the Texas delegation objecting to using disaster money for the border wall.

These individuals support the wall, I assume most of them do, but they don't support the President's promise that he might use executive powers to go into disaster money to pay for the border wall.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 15, 2019.

Hon. DONALD TRUMP,

President of the United States,

The White House, Washington, DC.

MR. PRESIDENT: The widespread flooding, storm surges and high winds that resulted from Hurricane Harvey's landfall (DR-4332) left many parts of the Texas coast paralyzed for months. Harvey leveled thousands of homes and businesses, altering many Texas communities forever. This disaster required a massive, coordinated response at the state, local and federal levels to help individuals restore their lives to normal as quickly as possible. Texas continues to rebuild through coordinated efforts at all levels of government and important work is underway to mitigate against future storms.

We—and the millions of Texas citizens we represent—remain thankful to the numerous federal agencies and first responders who coordinated and contributed resources and personnel. Shortly after the rains subsided, Congress swiftly acted by passing three separate disaster supplemental bills, including the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-123), which contained over \$15 billion dollars for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers civil works projects.

Recent reports have indicated that your Administration is considering the use of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers funds, appropriated by Congress and intended for Hurricane Harvey recovery and mitigation efforts, in an effort to secure our southern border. We strongly support securing the border with additional federal resources including tactical infrastructure, technology, ports of entry improvements and personnel. However, we are strongly opposed to using funds appropriated by Congress for disaster relief and mitigation for Texas for any unintended purpose. As Texans continue to rebuild and prepare for future disasters, these funds, appropriated by Congress to be spent directly on rebuilding and mitigation, are critical to helping our communities recover, preventing future flooding and protecting our constituents. Thank you for your commitment to help Texas respond to Hurricane Harvey and to secure the southern border. We ask that you ensure necessary efforts on border security do not jeopardize long-term hurricane recovery and mitigation in Texas.

Sincerely,

Greg Abbott, Governor, State of Texas; John Cornyn, U.S. Senator; Ted Cruz, U.S. Senator; Michael McCaul, Member of Congress; Randy Weber, Member of Congress; Will Hurd, Member of Congress; Kevin Brady, Member of Congress; Pete Olson, Member of Congress; Lance Gooden, Member of Congress; Brian Babin, Member of Congress; Kenny Marchant, Member of Congress; Bill Flores, Member of Congress; Dan Crenshaw, Member of Congress; Lizzie Fletcher, Member of Congress; K. Michael Conaway, Member of Congress; Roger Williams, Member of Congress; Kay Granger, Member of Congress; John Carter, Member of Congress; Sheila Jackson Lee, Member of Con-

gress; Filemon Vela, Member of Congress; Vicente Gonzalez, Member of Congress; Henry Cuellar, Member of Congress; Sylvia Garcia, Member of Congress.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. ESCOBAR).

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Chair, I thank Chairman MCGOVERN for yielding and for offering this amendment.

Madam Chair, I rise today in support of amendment No. 2, which would prevent funds in the underlying bill, made available for the Army Corps of Engineers or the Department of Homeland Security, from being used for the planning, development, or construction of any new physical barrier along the southwest border.

Sadly, this amendment is necessary because this administration wants to divert critical disaster relief funds meant for other projects to go toward border wall construction.

The reality is that our country needs help recovering from some of the greatest natural disasters that we have seen in our lifetime.

Let's ensure that our Nation has the necessary tools to recover, rebuild, and mitigate future natural disasters.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and to hold this administration accountable and ensure that they do not deceive the American people by pulling a bait-and-switch.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Chair, I would inquire how many more speakers the gentlewoman has.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I have no further speakers.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Chair, how much time do I have remaining?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Chair, I want to thank Representatives VELÁZQUEZ, HASTINGS, TORRES, JACKSON LEE, JAYAPAL, POCAN, and ESCOBAR for cosponsoring this amendment with me.

This is not about whether or not you believe a border wall is necessary or not. I don't believe it is. Some of my friends on the other side believe it is. But when the President said he was going to declare an emergency and dip into emergency funds, disaster funds, that are dedicated to helping people deal with real disasters to pay for this wall, that set off alarm bells here.

So no matter what side you are on on this border wall issue, you should support this amendment, because this President, and no President, should dip into disaster relief money to use it for something different than what Congress intended.

The people who this money is aimed at helping are not interested in building a wall; they are interested in rebuilding their homes.

Let us not put these moneys in jeopardy. Let's have a bipartisan moment when we all can agree that the disaster money ought to be disaster money, period.

Madam Chair, I urge a strong vote in favor of this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I urge a “no” vote on this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. RICE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 3 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 59, line 17, strike “labor standards, and the environment” and insert “and labor standards”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, a commonsense fix that gives HUD the flexibility to waive redundant and unnecessary environmental requirements that slow down the disaster recovery process.

Anyone from a district that has endured one of these devastating hurricanes, wildfires, or floods can attest to the fact that Congress should do everything in our power to quickly give these communities relief.

Madam Chair, 3 years ago, South Carolina was struck by Hurricane Matthew. As a result of that storm, South Carolina was awarded \$95 million, which was to be used to repair the households of 1,300 indigent families.

The three counties that were most affected were three of the very poorest counties in South Carolina, Marion, Dillon, and Marlboro, and 2 years and 6 months later, about \$25 million of that \$95 million has been spent, about 400 of those houses have been repaired, which leaves about 1,000 South Carolina families, indigent families, people who had nothing to begin with, either out of their homes or living in substandard, mold-infested housing that could burn down from electrical problems, or the flooring is buckled and so forth. We have to do better.

Why does it take so long? Why does it take two-and-a-half years to get these people back in their homes?

What I want to do, what my amendment does, is remove some of the burdensome Federal requirements that stand in the way of delivering the relief that the Federal Government has offered up money to pay for.

Now we come to Hurricane Florence. Hurricane Florence parked on top of my district and the southern part of North Carolina for 3 days in September and dumped over 40 inches of rain in places. And then when the storm finally did leave, for the next 2 weeks, the rivers rose and people were driven from their homes.

16,000 houses in my district were damaged. 12,000 of those houses had what they call moderate damage, which in their definition means that the house had water inside of the house but it was less than 2 feet deep.

Since the first major hurricane hit my district, I have been in constant contact with all Federal and State agencies involved in the recovery and rebuilding process. I frequently visit homes that are under construction and check with my constituents to ensure the process is going smoothly.

With respect to Matthew from two-and-a-half years ago, almost 1,000 of my constituents are still not in their homes.

My top question is, Why is this taking so long? And what can we do to fix it?

Part of their answer is reforming the long, expensive, and redundant environmental review process.

Currently, before a home is rebuilt with HUD funds, the South Carolina Disaster Recovery Office must conduct two environmental assessments. After completing a countywide assessment, every single home that is eligible to be repaired with HUD funds must undergo a second assessment, no matter the size or type of repair that they are using the HUD dollars to complete.

For example, if someone is using FEMA funds to repair a hole in the roof, the contractor can repair the hole without the homeowner having to complete an environmental study. However, if a home is being repaired using HUD funding, a costly and time-consuming environmental assessment must be completed before even the most minor of repairs can be made to the home.

This onerous regulatory requirement is just one more roadblock that my constituents face in the recovery process.

And I tell you again, the counties that were affected by this storm most severely are the poorest counties in South Carolina; majority African American, these people never had anything to begin with, and whatever they had has been taken away from them, and they need relief and they don't need Federal regulatory roadblocks.

Bringing the regulations that apply to HUD in line with other Federal agencies will create a more streamlined process and ensure the Federal dollars are put to use in a more prompt fashion.

We need to cut down the time and the costs that are preventing people in my district from getting back in their homes, back to normal, and on with their lives, and this practical amendment will do just exactly that.

Madam Chair, I have to reiterate that the House Republicans passed this disaster package in December, and here we come, the Democratic majority has put it back up, but has subjected it to reopening the government, and has made that a poison pill to make it impossible to be passed in this House.

Certainly it will not pass in the Senate, and the President will not sign it even if we pass it in this House.

Madam Chair, I urge Members to vote for this amendment and I urge the Democratic majority to stop playing politics with disaster recovery funds.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from North Carolina is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, the National Environmental Policy Act was first enacted in 1970, and since then, it has ensured that new projects comply with environmental standards that protect both human health and the environment. It is unwise and unnecessary to waive these requirements as we undertake disaster recovery.

This amendment is particularly troubling when we consider that the loss of wetlands has actually contributed, contributed heavily, to an increase in coastal flooding from hurricanes.

A 2017 study led by the University of California Santa Cruz showed a strong correlation between wetland cover and reduced property damage. The study estimated that wetlands in New York and New Jersey prevented a half a billion dollars in flood-related damage.

So our public policy should aim to reduce the impacts of future disasters, which is why this bill contains more than \$800 million in mitigation funding.

To allow the Secretary to waive environmental requirements would undermine the principle that disaster recovery efforts should ensure communities are in a better position to withstand future natural disasters.

Also, many disaster recovery projects involve multiple Federal funding sources. This provision actually could slow down recovery efforts, since HUD's environmental standards would no longer match those of other Federal agencies.

If we are going to get serious about mitigating the effects of climate change and the impacts of natural disasters, we need a robust environmental framework, and for 49 years, NEPA has provided that guidance.

This bill is not the place to discard decades of environmental protections. I urge a “no” vote on the amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE).

The amendment was rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 4 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I rise in support of my amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 23, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)” after the dollar amount.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I rise in support of my amendment, which I believe will make meaningful strides to help alleviate problems of poverty and hunger in Puerto Rico.

Unlike the States, Puerto Rico has been forced to work with the limited NAP block grant since 1982. This has led to a systemic underfunding of the nutritional needs of these American citizens for nearly 4 decades.

Sadly, with a severely restricted budget resulting in reduced benefits and eligibility on the island, we are leaving thousands of families hungry every day.

Already tragic, these problems were made worse when Hurricanes Irma and Maria made landfall. Puerto Rico was devastated, leaving a large share of the population out of work and unable to meet their basic needs.

In the year since the immediate aftermath, the island is still suffering. Poverty levels have risen dramatically and the economy continues struggling. Sixty percent of the children in Puerto Rico live in poverty.

□ 1545

This has meant an increase in the share of individuals who would otherwise be eligible for NAP, except for the fact that the program is capped. NAP is simply incapable of meeting the needs of Puerto Ricans, particularly given the current circumstances resulting from the disaster.

The underlying bill we are debating today will provide Puerto Rico with an additional \$600 million for disaster food assistance. I thank the chairwoman for including this critically needed funding.

This funding, and previously appropriated disaster resources, address two critical needs in Puerto Rico. First, it is providing NAP recipients with a bit more support to feed their families. Second, it aids an additional 200,000 people who lost their jobs and homes.

However, I believe Hurricanes Maria and Irma taught us some painful les-

sons with regard to nutritional support in Puerto Rico. We should be evaluating the benefits that adequate nutritional assistance has on Puerto Rican's health and economy.

My amendment would provide up to \$5 million to support the Commonwealth in conducting such a study. This will be an independent analysis that includes a survey of NAP participants on the island and fully investigates the impact disaster nutrition assistance has on the food security, health status, and well-being of the people of Puerto Rico.

I should note that the USDA conducted similar studies for the SNAP program that operates in 53 jurisdictions during and after the Great Recession. It is my hope that this analysis will provide Congress with additional insight and tools to further reduce poverty, hunger, and hardship on the island.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MS. VELÁZQUEZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 5 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I rise to offer my amendment, No. 5.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 16, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$25,000,000)”.

Page 17, line 5, after the colon, insert: *Provided further*, That of this amount \$25,000,000 shall be used for Corps of Engineers ecosystem restoration projects.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I rise to discuss an environmental and humanitarian crisis affecting the people of San Juan.

For decades, Cano Martin Pena has been a repository for sewage overflow, mercury, and PCBs. The Cano Martin Pena was once a navigable and commercially used channel. Today, it is so clogged that it is possible to walk across it on some parts.

Due to the clogging, the approximately 25,000 U.S. citizens who live near the Cano Martin Pena face significant public health and safety challenges. Combined stormwater and the regional sewage system contribute to high concentrations of coliforms in the channel.

Frequent flooding is a constant risk that can put residents into direct contact with polluted water. Exposure to these polluted waters causes an ele-

vated risk of gastrointestinal diseases and a higher prevalence of chronic diseases and asthma. Sadly, we often see these ailments in children 5 years old and younger. Those who reside near the canal live in constant fear that the next rainfall could become a major flood, dumping raw sewage into homes, schools, and businesses.

After the 2017 hurricanes, which exacerbated the Cano Martin Pena crisis with greater flooding, the communities that live near the 3.7 miles of this channel need our help more than ever.

Because of the hurricanes, more than 1,200 families partially or totally lost the roofs of their homes, and 70 percent of the community flooded with wastewater in the immediate aftermath.

These are the working people of San Juan, with one of the highest labor participation rates in the island. All they want is to be able to raise their families in safe and healthy communities. If we are ever to bring justice to these afflicted communities, we must dredge this canal and work toward its long-term remediation.

Puerto Rico has spent millions of dollars attending to the problem, but without additional Federal funds, this project will stall. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is ready to initiate construction as soon as Federal funding is made available.

My amendment will jump-start the most important flood mitigation project for Puerto Rico, ensuring the resiliency of critical infrastructure and doing justice to the working families living in this vulnerable area.

Madam Chair, this is not only an environmental project but a pressing issue of social and environmental justice. The people who live along this troubled canal have suffered long enough, but Hurricanes Maria and Irma underscored how quickly these problems can worsen with extreme weather. We have an obligation to act before the next hurricane or flood.

Madam Chair, I have been there and seen with my own eyes the devastation and hardship caused by this ecological disaster. I have seen children wading in contaminated waters after every heavy rainstorm. I ask my colleagues to join me in helping Puerto Rico by voting in support of this amendment.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Idaho is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, first, I would like to assure my colleague that I am not opposed to the project she is trying to fund. I am aware of the project and its importance to Puerto Rico. In a different context, I could support it.

In fact, as the previous chairman of the Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, I have worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to provide funding for ecosystem restoration projects well above the annual budget request.

What I am opposed to is funding the ecosystem restoration projects in a disaster supplemental appropriations bill. A disaster supplemental is not simply a chance to clear the Army Corps of Engineers' construction backlog. That is what the annual appropriations process is for.

A disaster supplemental is intended to protect storm-ravaged areas against future storms and to reduce Federal liabilities from future storms. That is why the underlying bill is consistent with previous disaster bills and limits funding to projects that provide real benefits for that type, namely, flood and storm damage reduction projects.

Additionally, I would be remiss if I did not point out that the particular project of interest would not even be eligible for funding under this amendment.

The underlying bill restricts construction funding to areas impacted by various storms, none of which impacted Puerto Rico. We should not raise hopes knowing the project isn't even eligible.

While I am happy to offer to work with my colleague and try to support the project through the regular appropriations process, which I am sure the new chairwoman, Chairwoman KAPTUR, is willing to do also, I must oppose funding in a disaster supplemental appropriations bill for ecosystem restoration projects.

Madam Chair, therefore, I oppose the amendment. I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Chair, I thank Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ for her daunting and unparalleled leadership in trying to help the people of Puerto Rico.

And I thank our very distinguished ranking member for his interest in helping to solve the real challenge of Cano Martin Pena.

I have to say to the people of Puerto Rico and our fellow citizens, those who reside in Puerto Rico and those who reside stateside here: We are very aware, from Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ's work, how devastated Puerto Rico is. She has spent so much of her substance in trying to educate the membership here. We are very fortunate for her abiding leadership.

We all need to stand up for the residents of Puerto Rico. I appreciate her work, and all of our colleagues' efforts, to do just that.

I am committed to working with her to address any issues with this amendment as we move forward. Its intent is absolutely on point. I think that, working together on a bipartisan basis, we can find a way to help heal our fellow citizens in Puerto Rico and bring a better way of life there in the future.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I would just say, again, it doesn't really matter

whether you vote for this amendment or not. It doesn't really do anything because the project is not eligible. What we are doing by adopting this amendment is raising false hopes, knowing that the project isn't even eligible.

I encourage the gentlewoman to withdraw the amendment and work with us to see if we can fund this through the regular appropriations process.

Madam Chair, I encourage a "no" vote on the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. STEWART

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 6 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I rise to offer my amendment on the floor.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 35, beginning line 5, strike "\$63,960,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided,*" and insert "\$84,960,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided,* that of this amount \$21,000,000 shall be used for hazardous fuels management activities: *Provided further,*"

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I thank Mr. MCGOVERN of the Rules Committee for making this vital amendment in order.

The base text of the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019 provides critical relief for natural disasters that have recently plagued our Nation. The supplemental is necessary, and it is needed, but we do have a problem, and it is a problem that we have to fix.

The interior West and, for example, my home State of Utah have been largely ignored. My amendment seeks to rectify this and seeks to increase funding for the West to address the impacts of ongoing drought and, something that we are all aware of, the catastrophic wildfires that we have been experiencing.

The amendment provides increased funding for hazardous fuel management activities in the hopes of doing three things: first, to increase the resiliency of our forest; second, to protect against future catastrophic fires; and, third, to reduce the amount of damage caused by these fires.

Like many Western States, and, as I mentioned, my home State of Utah, we suffered a devastating fire season that burned countless acres and threatened life and property. Now we are left with the scars of the burns that can be al-

most as damaging, with flooding, mudslides, and threats to water supplies.

If adopted, my amendment will not only help mitigate the losses from past fires but help to create future resiliency in our forests and lessen the devastating aftermath.

The simple fact is, we can do better. We can actively manage our forests by combating undergrowth, disease, and insect infestation. The Forest Service estimates that my home State of Utah has something like 436 million dead trees that are just waiting to burn. If this is not a threat, I don't know what is.

Madam Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), my friend, Madam Chair of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for the time.

As I pointed out earlier, the supplemental includes \$824 million to the U.S. Forest Service to help California and those who have been impacted by wildfires and Hurricanes Florence and Michael to recover.

While the funding includes \$27 million for hazardous fuel, I support the gentleman's proposal to increase this amount because we know we have a lot of work to do in fuel reduction. I would like to point out to the gentleman, I also support the continuing resolution portion of this legislation in front of us today because we need to reopen the Forest Service so we can use these funds.

□ 1600

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 7 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 1, line 15, insert "and harvested adulterated wine grapes" after "milk".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak in support of my proposed amendment.

Over the past 2 years communities across my district and throughout the State of California have been devastated by some of the biggest, deadliest, and most damaging wildfires in history. These disasters have catastrophic consequences for our agricultural communities.

Wildfires can and do incinerate entire fields of crops, but they also pose a threat of smoke contamination, exposure to high levels of smoke which damages crops beyond repair.

While smoke damage can affect a range of crops, wine grapes are particularly vulnerable. I have heard from dozens of my constituents who are facing the loss of their crop as their grapes are rejected due to this smoke damage.

I want to thank the Appropriations Committee and their staff for working with me to ensure that grape growers like those in my district are supported.

However, many wine grape growers do not discover smoke damage until after removing their fruit from the vine. These growers sustain heavy losses and deserve support. They should not be penalized simply because the damage to their grapes was discovered after the harvest.

My amendment would clarify that assistance offered under H.R. 268 is available to growers who discover smoke damage after removing their grapes from the vine. This situation is tragic and far too common, and this clarification is needed to ensure that growers like those in my district receive the support that they deserve.

Madam Chair, I want to reiterate my thanks to the Appropriations Committee and their staff, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 54, line 18, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$50,000,000)".

Page 55, strike line 9 and all that follows through "up to" in line 12.

Page 55, line 12, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$50,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman

from California (Mr. THOMPSON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Chair, I rise in support of amendment No. 8, which provides an additional \$50 million in community development funds for the 2017 federally declared disasters.

In October 2017, my district experienced, at that time, the most devastating fires in the history of California. The October 2017 wildfires devastated nearly 300,000 acres in California, destroyed some 7,000 homes, caused billions of dollars in damage, burned to the ground many businesses, and, most sadly, took the lives of 44 people.

In response to these fires, Congress enacted legislation that delivered California Community Development Block Grant disaster relief funding to address unmet needs and mitigation against future disasters.

As communities in my district continue the long and hard process of rebuilding, we are finding that the unmet needs are greater than the Federal relief provided. Local inspections of residences damaged or destroyed in the October 17 fires indicate that FEMA's individual assistance inspection process significantly underestimated the number of homes damaged or destroyed in Santa Rosa, one of the cities in my district, by a difference of nearly 2,900 homes.

Because the FEMA IA data may have informed HUD's initial allocation to the State of California, this leaves some communities in California, including Santa Rosa, with considerable unmet need for homeowners who are rebuilding.

In terms of public infrastructure, California's CDBG-DR action plan allocates 3 percent, at a total of \$3.5 million for the entire State, to aid unmet need for public infrastructure. However, Santa Rosa alone has significantly greater needs for recovery of public infrastructure with its projected local cost share for the repair of the damage infrastructure over \$11 million.

In addition to the local match requirement for FEMA public assistance projects, there are several large infrastructure projects needed due to the 17 wildfires, including street repairs, street tree removal, repair to the sidewalks in one particular area, and restoration to neighborhood parks.

The estimated cost for these projects is more than \$20 million. My amendment aims to help close this gap by providing the additional moneys in community development funds for the 2017 federally declared disasters.

Continued support from the Federal Government is essential as residents seek to rebuild and my district continues its long-term recovery.

Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to my colleague from California (Mrs. TORRES).

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding and for being such a great leader in helping those impacted by the devastating California wildfires.

The numbers are devastating. Nearly 2 million acres burned. Upwards of \$3.5 billion in damage, 8,500 individual fires, 98 civilians killed, 6 firefighters killed, and over 11,000 homes destroyed.

With climate change only making things worse, we must help California rebuild because this is just the beginning. Rainstorms will now further ravage communities, causing mudslides and flooding.

The amendment I have offered with Representative THOMPSON begins that rebuilding process by increasing funding for the community development fund by \$50 million, specifically for those communities that were hardest hit in the previous year.

Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for his work on this.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the chair of the subcommittee, and I thank him for all of his help.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, we have no objection to this amendment, in fact, urge its adoption. The amendment ensures that States and territories that have suffered from natural disasters in 2017 are made whole with respect to increased costs to repair public infrastructure.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. GRAVES OF LOUISIANA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 9 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 58, line 10, strike "That such" and all that follows through "of Engineers:" on line 13 and insert "That such funds may not be used for activities reimbursed by, or for which funds have been made available by, the Federal Emergency Management Agency or the Army Corps of Engineers, in excess of the authorized amount of the project or its components:".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, since 1980, we have had about 220

disasters that have caused over \$1 billion in damages. In fact, when you add all that money up, we have spent about \$1.5 trillion in disaster recovery, nearly all of that being emergency spending, adding to our deficit.

Now, the thing that we do here in the Federal Government to help bring an offense to the table, to help address resiliency, is largely the mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: projects for flood protection, for water management, for ecosystem restoration that can help improve the resiliency of our communities, hurricane protection in my home State of Louisiana.

Yet we have a \$100 billion backlog in Corps of Engineer projects across the United States. This Congress provides between \$1 billion and \$2 billion a year in construction.

Madam Chair, you can do the math. You have \$100 billion in authorized projects. You get \$1 billion to \$2 billion a year in construction, you will finish that backlog approximately never. You are not going to finish it.

And so what we did in the Disaster Recovery and Reform Act in October, that was signed into law in October and passed through this body three times, is we did a provision that says that FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds can be used to build a Corps of Engineers' project if your State, if your community determines that is the highest priority.

Right now, under Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Funds, there is a prohibition—and this is largely boilerplate language—that prohibits these funds from being used for a Corps of Engineers' project.

What this amendment does is it simply removes that if a State, if your community determines that that is the highest priority, addressing resiliency, telling your community that it is okay to build back here because we are going to make it safer, we are going to reduce the risk, prevent you from having future disaster, future damages.

Madam Chair, right now, sitting in the gallery is a group of students from Ed White High School in my home State of Louisiana. They have a project in their community that has been in the study phase since 1992, and the Corps of Engineers has spent \$80 million studying it. That is ridiculous. It has caused billions of dollars in flood damages in this area. This project has not moved forward.

We have got to make sure that we are advancing these projects as quickly as we can, improving the resilience of our communities. So this amendment, again, makes the CDBG-DR funds eligible if your State, if your community determines that is the highest and best value, the best investments of the funds.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to refrain from referencing occupants of the gallery.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to

claim the time in opposition, even though I am not actually opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, this amendment amends a section of the base bill that sets out the sequence of assistance for communities seeking relief.

The base bill maintains that CDBG-DR funding should be used after grantees sought out funding from FEMA and the Army Corps of Engineers to meet any needs that remain.

Public Law 105-276 limits the use of CDBG-DR funding to \$250,000 per Army Corps of Engineers' project, and this provision would not be changed by the amendment.

The amendment would allow communities to utilize CDBG-DR funds for a project in advance of FEMA or Corps of Engineers' funding. The CDBG-DR funding would still be subject to the usual limitations on duplication of benefits.

I have some concern that the amendment's language is ambiguous with respect to the phrase "in excess of the authorized amount of the project." I assume that the gentleman means the authorized amount by FEMA or the Army Corps, respectively, and not an amount authorized by HUD.

I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), if he would respond and confirm my understanding.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, I appreciate the gentleman's question, and certainly there is no intention under the provision as written to appropriate or provide more funds than are authorized under the existing act or allocated to that State or county or parish or what have you.

□ 1615

In addition, obviously, there would be no intention under the provision to spend more money than the project is actually authorized for because you couldn't build a project more than once.

I hope that was responsive to the gentleman's question.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. The question, though, is: Authorized by whom?

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, the chairman brings up a good point in that is the authorized amount the full authorized amount that the Federal law for a Corps of Engineers project provides? For example, if Congress authorized a flood protection project for \$100 million, could they possibly get more than \$100 million? The answer to that question is no.

The second question to attempt to clarify would be, if a community is allocated \$50 million through the CDBG-DR program, would it be possible for them to spend more than \$50 million on

the project? Once again, to the chairman's question, the answer would be no. This would not intend to obligate or in any way spend more money that is allocated to them under CDBG-DR or under the authorized project in Federal law.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. So when the amendment states the phrase "in excess of the authorized amount of the project," can I confirm that the gentleman is saying that he means the authorized amount by FEMA or the Army Corps and not the authorized amount by HUD?

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Yes. Absolutely. That is the intention that we would not exceed the authorized amount of the project authorized by the Corps or by FEMA. As I indicated, we couldn't build a project more than once, so whatever that authorized level is in existing Federal law, that would apply.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman.

Given that understanding, the amendment is a modest change to the existing program, and I have no objection.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina and thank the Rules Committee for making this in order.

Madam Chair, I urge adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. RICHMOND

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 57, line 13, strike "and any grantee" and all that follows through line 19 and insert the following: "shall act in accordance with section 1210 of Public Law 115-254 (132 Stat. 3442) and section 312 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5155):".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Chair, I rise today to offer a simple bipartisan amendment. This amendment would ensure the language in the bill conforms with current law.

All of us who represent areas around the country that have experienced natural disasters know how difficult and complicated the recovery process can be.

Last Congress, we came together to pass the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, a bipartisan bill that made key changes to improve how we respond after disasters and also make recovery an easier process.

One of those changes was a provision outlining a better way to handle concerns over duplication of benefits after a disaster. It created a process that allows greater flexibility to respond to the unique situations that occur after every disaster.

It is important to my constituents and anyone dealing with the effects of a natural disaster that this administration has clear instructions and that they can readily act on what Congress has instructed them to do. The language of this amendment eliminates the risk of any confusion over what process the administration should follow.

Madam Chair, this is just another attempt by my colleague and me from Louisiana who have, unfortunately, had the benefit of surviving through a number of natural disasters and just trying to make it easier for our constituents to navigate the process and difficulty of FEMA and recovery. So what this amendment does is helps every area that will have a disaster deal with the question of duplication of benefits.

Madam Chair, I urge adoption of the amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), who is the chairman of the subcommittee.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I am happy to express support for his amendment.

The amendment would clarify that HUD should follow existing law when it comes to duplication of benefits with respect to SBA loans and CDBG-DR grants.

This is an issue that needs clarification. It has affected individuals in my home State of North Carolina as well as people in Louisiana, Texas, and other States recovering from recent disasters.

I agree, we shouldn't be penalizing individuals who take out an SBA loan in good faith and then later discover that that makes them no longer eligible for a CDBG-DR grant.

So I thank the gentleman for the amendment. It is a helpful clarification of our intent, and I have no objection to the amendment.

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Chair, I would just offer support for the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition, but I don't intend to oppose the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Chair, I want to thank my colleague

from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND) and the chairman from North Carolina for their help in getting these amendments put together, both the last one and this one.

As my good friend from Louisiana indicated, this is the result of lessons learned, unfortunately, from countless disasters in our home State.

What this does is it assures conformity between this appropriations bill and law, as indicated, the Disaster Recovery Reform Act that was signed into law in October, to ensure—and let me be clear, Madam Chair. That bill passed the House of Representatives three times, the last time by voice vote; and I think the second to last time it passed with maybe 12 opposing votes in this entire body, but not because of this provision. None of those opposing votes had anything to do with this provision.

What it does is it simply says, in the aftermath of a disaster, if you applied for a loan, that doesn't make you ineligible for grants that anyone else can apply for. We shouldn't penalize people for leaning forward, being proactive, and seeking loans, and then tell them later they can't be eligible for a grant. The alternative is they stay in a FEMA-supplied hotel room, incurring taxpayers more cost, and it delays recovery.

So what Mr. RICHMOND's provision does is it ensures conformity to the changes in law that occurred in October in this appropriations bill, the duplication of benefits as applied in a consistent manner. I want to thank him for his continued leadership on this issue and working together.

Madam Chair, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. RICHMOND).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 34, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, I would like to first thank my colleague from California, Representative PANETTA, for his cosponsorship of this bipartisan amendment. I also would like to thank Representative MCCOLLUM from Minnesota for her support of this amendment.

Madam Chair, this amendment simply adds \$10 million to the State and private forestry fund. The purpose of this is to prevent some of these catastrophic wildfires that we have been seeing over the past few years.

What we have here is a map that shows what the Forest Service has delineated as a wildland-urban interface. This is where forestry and urban areas intersect, and this is where we have potential for significant loss of property and lives.

There are already programs in place to manage these wildland-urban interfaces, and what we hope to do with this additional appropriation is just to help the State forestry units manage these areas better.

We talk a lot in Congress about Federal lands and how we need to manage those, but across the country, over half of all forestland is owned by private forest landowners. There are literally millions of these private forest landowners, many of them on very small parcels of forestland, and they have no incentive to manage them to help stop the spread of catastrophic wildfire.

What the State and private forestry program does is allows State foresters to go in and help these private landowners to understand how to manage their forests and give them the assistance they need so that we can make these wildland-urban interfaces safer places.

Madam Chair, if we managed everything perfectly on the Federal lands and these wildland-urban interfaces, you still have the issue of all the private lands. The map shows wildland-urban interfaces in places you would expect out in California and other Western States, but because of the population density, we see a lot of these wildland-urban interfaces are in the East where there is more dense populations.

So these funds, although rather small in relation to this huge bill—as a matter of fact, they make up only eight one-hundredths of 1 percent of the total funds in this bill—would have a huge impact all across the country in making our communities more resilient to catastrophic wildfire, would really help to save property and lives in the future, and would also save a lot of future disaster supplemental funding that the Federal Government would have to dish out.

So, again, I am just asking for this amendment to help State and private forests with a \$10 million plus-up to their funds.

Madam Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA).

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Arkansas has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA).

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Chair, I thank Mr. WESTERMAN for all of his work on this.

Madam Chair, our amendment would provide \$10 million in additional funding to the U.S. Forest Service and its State and private forestry account. That account is set up to help State and local landowners recover from damages caused by wildfires and to provide more resources for proactive forest management.

What we have seen, unfortunately, in the last few years is a number of horrific fires throughout our Nation, and especially where I am from in California and the central coast of California. But what we know is that we must do something about it.

This amendment does something about it by providing the necessary resources to maintain certain areas in which human beings are living close to forests and, therefore, making sure that there are certain requirements that are met by the local entities.

But we can do this without sacrificing our environmental protections. This is why we are basically able to increase resources for wildfire mitigation practices such as prescribed burns and maintenance of fuel breaks and technical assistance to landowners. We can make sure that they are advanced, but that they can also be in compliance with environmental safety guards. We can do both in this amendment, and this amount of money does that.

So, Madam Chair, I continue to ask for support of this amendment, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yea" on this.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Arkansas has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, I yield 45 seconds to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota will state her parliamentary inquiry.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, could I ask unanimous consent to rise in opposition even though I am not opposed to the bill, claim 5 minutes, and then the gentleman could have time to close?

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is correct.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I leave that to the gentleman. He has 1 minute remaining, Madam Chair, if he would like to use it now and then I will use my own time.

The Acting CHAIR. Does the gentleman from Arkansas reserve his time?

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time in opposition, even though I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Minnesota?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, the supplemental appropriation that we are discussing today includes \$8.24 million for the U.S. Forestry Service to work on disaster relief, and it includes \$2 million for State and private forestry. As I have told the Members here, I totally support the gentleman's proposal to increase the amount, and they have done an excellent job describing why it is so important.

As wildfires continue to increase in both frequency and intensity as a result of climate change, we need to do more to prevent them. The State private forestry programs bring together States, Tribes, and local governments and gives them the tools they need to protect communities and our environment from wildfires. I have seen firsthand. I have spoken to people who have used these programs, and it is money well spent to prevent wildland fires.

□ 1630

However, in order for the Forestry Service to be able to use these critical funds, I will be supporting the CR portion of this bill to reopen the government, because without this continuing resolution the agencies won't be able to receive funds to get to work immediately.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Chair, this bill, again, would help State and private forests. It would help to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires. It is sound environmentally, and it is a good investment for the Federal Government.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MS. JAYAPAL

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 12 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act for the Department of Homeland Security may be used for the construction or expansion of immigration detention facilities.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, my amendment would simply make clear to the Department of Homeland Security that these funds, which Congress is specifically dedicating to the Coast

Guard's environmental remediation efforts as a result of hurricane damage, cannot be reprogrammed to increase DHS's detention capacity.

Madam Chair, this amendment is critical. Just a few months ago, we learned that DHS transferred \$169 million from other agencies to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to detain and remove people.

Madam Chair, \$10 million of that money came from FEMA, diverting funds from the disaster relief agency at the start of the hurricane season when Hurricane Florence was heading toward the East Coast; \$1.8 million of that diverted money came from the Domestic Nuclear Detention Office; \$29 million was taken out from the Coast Guard's budget; and over \$34 million came from several TSA programs. That is simply unacceptable.

ICE continues to spend far above its appropriated funding to detain people, but these funds are being transferred from other critical agencies, in clear violation of congressionally mandated funding.

As of January 1, more than 48,000 people were being held in ICE custody, even though they only have funding appropriated by Congress to detain 40,520 people. In the last appropriations act passed by this Chamber, we provided funding to ICE with the understanding that the funding amount would, "require ICE to reduce the number of detention beds," in use before the end of the year.

We clearly stated our intent to ICE, yet ICE has chosen to ignore the mandates of the United States Congress again and again.

Moreover, the Government Accountability Office has found a number of inconsistencies and errors in ICE's own calculations for its congressional budget justifications. While ICE officials stated their budget documents undergo multiple reviews to ensure accuracy, ICE was not able to provide any documentation of such reviews, and the GAO concluded that "ICE is not positioned to ensure the credibility of its budget requests."

If the GAO concludes that ICE is not positioned to ensure the credibility of its own requests, then we need to be doing a better job of checking for accuracy and exercising oversight.

And, most of all, we need to make sure that these funds that are being appropriated for disaster relief stay for disaster relief.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Idaho is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, first of all, there are no funds in this bill to expand or build detention facilities.

There are no funds in this bill to expand or build detention facilities.

There are no funds in this bill to expand or build detention facilities.

But let me get this straight, see if I have got it straight. We don't want to enhance border security to stop people from coming across the border illegally. We have got immigration courts being overrun. And we don't want to have the necessary facilities to keep those people because they can't get into the immigration courts right away.

What exactly do you want us to do?

Just because Congress says, Hey, I am only giving you funding for 40,000 people. What if 100,000 people come across the border illegally? What do you expect us to do?

You have no answers, except: No, no, don't detain them.

Just let them go?

I know how we can reduce the cost of prisons in this country. Let's only appropriate enough money to house 100,000 prisoners. Regardless of the crimes they have committed or anything else, I am only going to fund 100,000. Above that, just let them go.

I don't get it. I don't know where the heck we are coming from on this. All this does is put another poison pill in this bill that will make it much more difficult to pass and will ensure that the Senate will never take it up, which I doubt they will anyway.

To me, I just don't understand what the heck is going on here. We all know what the answer to this shutdown is. Every one of us, in our heart, knows what the answer is. It is a compromise. And a compromise means both sides give some and get some. That is the nature of a compromise.

That means there are going to be parts in it that I don't like, but I am going to end up voting for it. That means there are going to be parts in it you don't like, but you need to end up voting for it.

Anyway, we need to get back to opening this government and quit putting these poison pills and this nonsense in this bill.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, I am going to yield to my colleague in just a second. But this should be easy to vote for because you yourself said there is nothing in here that provides funding for detentions. So I look forward to seeing the gentleman vote for my amendment because, actually, then you are saying there is no problem here, we are going to make sure that these funds actually go where they are supposed to, to disaster relief.

That is all I am saying in this amendment is let's make sure that the funds we appropriate go to disaster relief, which is necessary, and States across the country—certainly in my part of the country—wildfires, hurricanes—we have lots of issues we have got to deal with here.

So, given that the gentleman just started his remarks with multiple statements saying there is nothing in this bill that would allow for this, I look forward to seeing your yes vote on my amendment.

Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT).

The Acting CHAIR. Members are again reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this amendment and want to thank Ms. JAYAPAL for allowing me time to speak in support.

As she outlined, this amendment would restrict the Department of Homeland Security from using any emergency funds from being reprogrammed to add beds at immigration detention centers.

Last year, during the historic hurricane season that ravaged Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and parts of Texas, the White House brazenly shifted millions of dollars slated for recovery to Immigration and Customs Enforcement in order to fund the immoral detention of refugees and other immigrants as part of its horrible zero tolerance policy.

Throughout the Gulf Coast, but especially in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done. Businesses must reopen, power infrastructure needs to be restored and made more resilient, and communities must be rebuilt, yet President Trump is threatening to declare a phony national emergency so he can take these critical funds and put them toward a useless, medieval wall and other components of his cruel immigration policies.

I am happy to support this amendment, Madam Chair.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, let me just say how pleased I am that we are on the same page, that disaster relief funding should go to disaster relief; it should not go to expanding detention beds, which are already oversubscribed.

So I hope that the other side will be happy to vote yes on this amendment. And I would just say we are happy to have a discussion about immigration and all of the things we need to do to reform our immigration system at the right time.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, may I inquire how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Idaho has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Chair, I would just say that the argument I just heard is kind of ridiculous. If what we are going to do is list everything this bill, these funds, can't be spent on, I don't think we should be able to give any of this money to NASA to put a man on the moon.

We could list everything that the Federal Government does except these things and say we have to specify it in the bill.

No. This is a poison pill.

Again, I didn't hear an answer. What do you expect to do when these people come across the border illegally? What if they are waiting for hearings and stuff and the courts are just being flooded?

There are no answers. You have no answers. This is a bad amendment. Just trying to make a statement.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair.

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. SABLAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 13 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 44, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$16,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment that increases funding for the Marianas Medicaid block grant.

Our islands were struck by two catastrophic weather events late last year. Typhoon Mangkhut made landfall September 10, and on September 29 the President declared a major disaster for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

While recovery from Mangkhut was still ongoing, super Typhoon Yutu, the second most powerful storm ever in United States history, struck. Yutu caused widespread destruction of homes, businesses, public facilities, and infrastructure. On October 26, the President declared a second major disaster for our islands.

Yutu also brought death.

Never in anyone's memory has a typhoon caused death in our islands, but one person died during Yutu and another in a storm-related accident. Over 130 people were injured.

Our only hospital, which has just 75 beds, packed people into the emergency room to stitch up wounds; remove glass and flying debris from legs, arms, and faces; and attend to those who needed dialysis or other treatment, while waiting days for power to be restored.

Medicaid provides one-quarter of the revenue for the hospital and health insurance for 30 percent of our population, but there is a cap on how much Medicaid funding is available to the Marianas. When a storm strikes, the program has to steal from tomorrow to pay for today.

The disaster appropriation the House passed on December 21, generous though it was, provided no money for Medicaid for the Marianas.

Chairwoman LOWEY, recognizing the lapse, added \$20 million in H.R. 268 for the Marianas Medicaid program to be available for the rest of the year. After her bill was drafted, however, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS, informed appropriations staff that the Marianas can actually use \$36 million in the wake of the typhoons.

Following that advice from CMS, I am offering an amendment that adds \$16 million to the original bill, bringing total assistance for the rest of the year to the recommended \$36 million.

Madam Chair, I ask my colleagues for their support of my amendment and of the underlying bill, H.R. 268. The \$36 million I am requesting, by adding \$16 million to the \$20 million already in the bill, is what CMS told Chairwoman LOWEY's staff that the Marianas can spend this year in the aftermath of Typhoon Mangkhut and super Typhoon Yutu.

□ 1645

Madam Chair, I include in the RECORD a recent news report, "From Something to Nothing," published in the Honolulu Civil Beat.

'FROM SOMETHING TO NOTHING': LIFE IN SAIPAN AFTER SUPER TYPHOON YUTU
(By Anita Hofschneider)

CHALAN KANO, SAIPAN.—Elkanah Igisaiar watches her daughter climb onto an old car and lift herself up onto the branches of a tree. It's late afternoon on the Wednesday before Christmas and Igisaiar is sitting in a plastic chair outside at her family's compound in this tiny village in southern Saipan.

The cluster of homes down the street from the island's cathedral is where her family has lived for generations.

But since Super Typhoon Yutu blew through her neighborhood in October, her mother's house is uninhabitable—and their street is now a cluster of tents.

"Most of us are not really ready to talk about the storm," says Igisaiar, 27. "We are just kind of in disbelief that we went from something to nothing."

Two months after the worst storm to hit the U.S. since 1935, thousands of people like Igisaiar are still sleeping in tents or outdoors. They're waiting for electricity to go back on. And they are wondering how they'll afford to rebuild their homes even if they are lucky enough to get some federal aid.

Despite the severity of the storm, there's been little news media coverage of what life is like in its aftermath. The islands are thousands of miles away from the mainland U.S. and the storm had only one reported casualty.

But the low death toll belies how drastically Yutu continues to affect thousands of people.

Before Yutu, there were fewer than 100 homeless people sleeping outdoors on the island of Saipan, the capital of the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Despite widespread poverty—more than half of the community was below the U.S. poverty line and the median income was \$19,201 in 2016—it was rare to see people living in tents.

But overnight, the storm displaced an estimated 15,000 to 17,000 people, more than a quarter of the commonwealth's population of about 55,000 people.

Severe storms are common in the Mariana Islands, an archipelago in the western Pacific that includes Guam. Three years ago, another storm downed half of Saipan's power poles, leaving some families without electricity for three months.

The expectation that every year will bring extreme weather events means government buildings and schools are built from concrete to withstand strong winds.

More than 80 percent of houses had concrete walls as of 2016, and more than half had concrete roofs. Locals are well-versed in the annual rituals of buying nonperishable food, filling buckets of water and boarding up windows to protect them from flying debris.

But Yutu exceeded expectations.

Its 180-mph sustained winds with gusts over 200 mph broke the National Weather Service's wind instruments, flipped over containers and ripped off thousands of roofs. Families hid beneath cabinets, under beds and inside bathrooms to stay safe. Even elderly people who had survived countless typhoons on the islands say they feared for their lives. One woman was killed by a collapsing building.

Igisaiar was in her second-floor apartment during the storm, watching roofs flying off her neighbors' homes. She saw one family trying to escape their house, temporarily blocked by a huge piece of tin that flew onto their doorway. As they crawled underneath to get out, Igisaiar's boyfriend went downstairs to urge them to hide in their apartment.

By the time the sun rose, Igisaiar says several neighbors were sheltering with her, her boyfriend and four children.

The storm damaged so many public schools that students didn't have classes for more than a month and still only have half-days. The tourism-based economy came to a standstill, with fewer than 6,000 visitors in November, down from 48,000 the previous year.

Two months later, debris has been cleared from many villages and the economy is rebounding. It's once again common to see tourists on the sidewalks and their bubble-gum-colored convertible rental cars on the roads.

But on the southern side of Saipan and throughout the neighboring island of Tinian, families are still sifting through the wreckage of their lives, sleeping outdoors and waiting for the electricity to be turned back on. The storm destroyed or severely damaged more than 5,000 houses, some of which were home to multiple families.

And unlike disasters on the U.S. mainland, victims can't just drive to the next county to find another place to live.

There aren't enough undamaged units on the islands of Saipan and Tinian to house everyone who has been displaced. Instead of handing out rental subsidies like they did after Hurricane Michael and Hurricane Florence, federal disaster responders have passed out more than 1,700 tents along with military rations.

"When you've been hit like this, things get real primal real fast and we understand that so our objective is to provide a safe and sanitary living arrangement," says Victor Inge, a FEMA spokesman based on Saipan.

The housing shortage is so severe that FEMA is calling families and offering to buy them plane tickets out of the islands. So far, 29 households have taken advantage of the program and have booked tickets to Hawaii and other states.

But even though more than 3,600 people are eligible to leave, the vast majority are choosing to stay. Igisaiar's family is Caro-

linian, an indigenous Micronesian community that sailed in canoes to the Marianas in the 19th century after a typhoon devastated the Caroline Islands.

Although Yutu was the worst storm she's seen in her life, Igisaiar says she wouldn't leave the Marianas even if FEMA gave her money to do so.

She doesn't want her kids to miss more school. She's worried about their house.

"If we leave, there's nothing that can be done with our house," Igisaiar says. "If we go, how are we going to get the assistance?"

THE HAZARDS OF CLEANING UP

Igisaiar felt lucky at first. She didn't lose her roof. But the next day she says her landlord asked her to move out anyway because of the hazards posed by the damaged apartment building.

They took just their clothes and one bed, leaving their children's beds and their refrigerator. They drove to what was left of the house of her mother, Rufina Angui, in Chalan Kanoa.

The U.S. military built the house out of wood and tin 30 years ago after Typhoon Kim destroyed the previous house, Rufina Angui says.

Angui was 27 then. Now 57, it's the first time in her life that she's been homeless. The heat and the mosquitoes aren't the only challenge—the lack of power means she can't use the breathing machine she relies on to help with her sleep apnea.

Angui only recently moved back to the house and started sleeping in the tent. During and immediately after the typhoon, she stayed at her brother's house, which is concrete, while Igisaiar and her boyfriend tried to fix up the Chalan Kanoa house.

It was too dangerous to sleep inside the broken house at first, so Igisaiar and her boyfriend lay pallets outside and secured a tarp over them to block the rain. Igisaiar's boyfriend, a construction worker, missed work for three weeks to help clean up. They stacked plywood, tin and debris in separate piles along the roadside.

Even though there were shelters available, they slept outside and cleaned. They worried about missing their FEMA inspection if they weren't around. Plus, who would fix up what was left of the house if they weren't there?

But increasingly Igisaiar realized fixing the house was an impossible task. The mold made her sick—it started with a cough but progressed to a sinus infection until she couldn't hear or smell well.

When Angui saw her three weeks after the storm, her daughter was so weak that she was having a hard time breathing. Igisaiar didn't want to leave her kids, but Angui convinced her to go to the hospital.

EXACERBATING POVERTY

The first 24 hours after the storm, no one went to the emergency room of the hospital on Saipan. And then suddenly the ER was flooded with twice as many patients as on a normal day—so many that there weren't enough beds in the ER.

The flow of injuries has slowed over the past two months but hospital officials say that the disaster has illuminated the major gaps in health care coverage. Temporary clinics set up in devastated villages revealed that nearly half of patients were uninsurable because they were guest workers, undocumented immigrants or citizens of Pacific island nations who are ineligible for Medicaid.

Esther Muna, the CEO of the local public hospital, says she's currently most worried about mental illnesses. She's seen patients with post-traumatic stress disorder and depression and says there's been a spate of recent suicides.

Food safety is another concern. Commonwealth officials say they had just reached

their goal of providing 24-hour water to all villages on Saipan in September, and storm damage has set them back again.

Many locals say that the U.S. government's response to Yutu is much better than it was for Soudelor, another powerful storm that hit Saipan three years ago.

But a speedy recovery is hindered by the islands' distance from the rest of the U.S. The Mariana Islands are at least an eight-hour flight from Hawaii, not including a stop in Guam. Disaster responders have to ship in everything from concrete poles to tents, lumber, tin, wire, transformers, even screws.

It's even harder to reach the island of Tinian, which is between Guam and Saipan and home to about 3,500 people, similar to the island of Lanai in Hawaii.

The entire island was engulfed by the eye of the storm. At the commuter airport on Saipan that facilitates flights to Tinian, airplanes were destroyed, preventing travel for days. Passengers now buy tickets from a makeshift airport building made out of containers and tents.

Staff of the Tinian Health Center, an outpost of the public hospital, hid in the radiology room to survive the storm. Ninety percent of the 35-member staff lost their homes, Muna says.

THINGS COULD BE WORSE

Things have been a lot easier ever since Igisaiar got back from the ER. She wishes she remembered the name of the doctor who helped her and got her family a tent to sleep in.

Sleeping inside the tent is a huge improvement over sleeping under the tarp, even though it's hot during the day.

Life now consists of waiting. Waiting until FEMA tells her mother and aunt how much money they qualify for, waiting until they can figure out what to do with the house and how much it will cost to rebuild it.

She's thought about selling her families' goats—they have seven, with names like Olaf and Elsa. But she wants to keep them because her kids love them. Plus, in Carolinian culture you're supposed to value gifts more than things you buy.

She thought about applying to FEMA for funds to make up for losing their cell phones and appliances when their apartment flooded during the typhoon. But she decided against it.

"For me, those are nothing," she says. "There are other people that just totally lost everything so why not give it to the people that need it the most?"

She did apply for money from the Red Cross and used the \$750 to buy school supplies and clothes for her kids.

Every morning, she goes to buy ice so that her kids can have cold water. She spends the day watching her children and helping her mom. They have even started volunteering at Empty Vessel, a Christian social service organization that hands out clothes to those in need.

Angui says she's tired of eating canned goods, but the family knows it's lucky to have food stamps.

"We're not hungry," Angui says.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO).

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chair, I rise in support of Mr. SABLAN's amendment. As chair of the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, I believe we must ensure Americans can access vital health programs, especially in times of dire need.

Yet, after terrible typhoons, Americans in the Northern Marianas could

see Medicaid run out. Unlike States, territories have finite pools of Medicaid funding, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services estimates the Northern Marianas needs \$36 million to maintain care for Medicaid patients, up from \$20 million, which we provided in the underlying bill.

Mr. SABLAN's amendment would provide that additional \$16 million. We have an obligation to help Americans in Middletown, Connecticut, and, yes, the Northern Marianas access Medicaid as well, especially when they need it the most.

Madam Chair, I strongly support the amendment.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I have no further statements to make. I ask for support of my amendment and the underlying bill, H.R. 268, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. SABLAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 14 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 6, line 13, insert "(increased by \$15,000,000)" after the dollar amount.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, my second amendment to this Supplemental Appropriations Act increases emergency food assistance for the Marianas.

As I explained earlier, our islands were struck by not one, but two typhoons last year, one right after another—Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu, the second most powerful storm ever in U.S. history.

Within the first 30 days after Yutu, our local food stamp program had incurred costs of \$10.2 million. That money helped families replace the food they lost in the storms when their homes lost roofs and water poured in and electricity and refrigeration were cut off.

Over 40,000 people, out of our total population of 54,000, received help in that first month, according to the Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service. H.R. 268 replaces that first month's expenditure with an appropriation of \$10.2 million.

I thank Chair LOWEY for recognizing the need, but beyond that first month of emergency, more is needed.

The Marianas is not part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP. Instead, we receive a block grant from the Federal Govern-

ment. With the block grant, there is no reserve, as with SNAP. When disaster strikes, not only is money used up faster than planned on the front end, future costs also rise until families get back on their feet.

Madam Chair, I have no official projection of the ongoing costs, because Agriculture employees are furloughed. But just before the lights went out, my staff learned that about 20 percent of the people who received food assistance right after the storm were expected to remain eligible.

If these projections hold true, total caseload will double from 3,000 households to 6,000 households. The \$15 million in my amendment will provide a little over 6 months of funding for those newly eligible households until their incomes can recover.

If \$15 million proves too generous, which I very much doubt, the Secretary has authority to grant only as much as needed to respond to the disaster caused by Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu. I ask my colleagues for their support of my amendment and of H.R. 268.

Madam Chair, again, because the Marianas is not part of SNAP, there is no contingency funding to absorb the costs of this disaster. With more families eligible for assistance, unless we make more funds available, benefits will have to be cut across the board. That is not a right way to respond when people are trying to put their lives back together so they can support themselves and their families again.

Madam Chair, I ask my colleagues to support my amendment making another \$15 million available so these families have enough food. I urge your support for the underlying bill as well, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MISS GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN OF PUERTO RICO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 15 printed in part B of House Report 116-2.

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Chair, I rise as the designee of the gentlewoman from American Samoa (Mrs. RADEWAGEN), and I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 5, line 23, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)" after the dollar amount.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 43, the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico.

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Chair, today, I rise to offer an amendment to increase the nutritional assistance funding amount of

the bill by \$5 million so the bill can include American Samoa in the emergency appropriation due to the damage caused by Cyclone Gita in February of last year.

The 100 mile-per-hour winds of Cyclone Gita wiped out an entire growing season for the American Samoan people, a rural community that largely depends on subsistence farming. Staple crops of bananas, breadfruit, and taro were lost wholesale, which led to an enormous drain on the islands' small nutritional assistance grant.

These funds are vital to sustain the basic local population and help fulfill the basic nutritional assistance needs of the American Samoan population. By approving this amendment, approximately 6,000 people in the territory will benefit and will have greater access to food security.

Madam Chair, I believe that including American Samoa in the disaster bill will do what the people need there. I ask for your support for this emergency provision to benefit the people of American Samoa, on behalf of Congresswoman AMATA RADEWAGEN.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

The amendment was agreed to.

VACATING DEMAND FOR RECORDED VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. STEWART

Mr. STEWART. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent that the request for a recorded vote on my amendment be withdrawn to the end that the Chair put the question de novo.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Utah?

There was no objection.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. STEWART).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, the unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 116-2 offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 230, noes 197, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 37]

AYES—230

Adams
 Aguilar
 Allred
 Amash
 Axne
 Barragán
 Bass
 Beatty
 Bera
 Beyer
 Bishop (GA)
 Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Boyle, Brendan F.
 Brown (MD)
 Brownley (CA)
 Bustos
 Butterfield
 Carbajal
 Cárdenas
 Carson (IN)
 Cartwright
 Case
 Casten (IL)
 Castor (FL)
 Castro (TX)
 Chu, Judy
 Cicilline
 Cisneros
 Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY)
 Clay
 Cleaver
 Clyburn
 Cohen
 Connolly
 Cooper
 Correa
 Costa
 Courtney
 Cox (CA)
 Craig
 Crist
 Crow
 Cuellar
 Cummings
 Davids (KS)
 Davis (CA)
 Davis, Danny K.
 Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Delgado
 Demings
 DeSaulnier
 Deutch
 Diaz-Balart
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doyle, Michael F.
 Engel
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espallat
 Evans
 Finkenauer
 Fitzpatrick
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Frankel
 Fudge
 Gabbard
 Gallego
 Garamendi

García (IL)
 García (TX)
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzalez (TX)
 González-Colón (PR)
 Gottheimer
 Green (TX)
 Grijalva
 Haaland
 Harder (CA)
 Hastings
 Hayes
 Heck
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill (CA)
 Himes
 Horsford
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Huffman
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (TX)
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kennedy
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kind
 Kirkpatrick
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Lawrence
 Lawson (FL)
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lewis
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 Loebsack
 Lofgren
 Lowenthal
 Lowey
 Luján
 Luria
 Lynch
 Malinowski
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Matsui
 McAdams
 McBath
 McCollum
 McGovern
 McNeerney
 Meeks
 Meng
 Moore
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mucarsel-Powell
 Murphy
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Norcross

NOES—197

Abraham
 Aderholt
 Allen
 Amodei
 Armstrong
 Arrington
 Babin
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Banks
 Barr
 Bergman
 Biggs
 Bilirakis

Norton
 O'Halleran
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pascrell
 Perlmutter
 Peters
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Plaskett
 Pocan
 Porter
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Rice (NY)
 Richmond
 Rose (NY)
 Rouda
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Ryan
 Sablan
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrader
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shalala
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Sires
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small (NM)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Vargas
 Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wexton
 Wild
 Yarmuth

Carter (TX)
 Chabot
 Cheney
 Cline
 Cloud
 Cole
 Collins (GA)
 Collins (NY)
 Comer
 Conaway
 Cook
 Crawford
 Crenshaw
 Cunningham
 Curtis

Davidson (OH)
 Davis, Rodney
 DesJarlais
 Duffy
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Emmer
 Estes
 Ferguson
 Fleischmann
 Flores
 Fortenberry
 Foxx (NC)
 Fulcher
 Gaetz
 Gallagher
 Gianforte
 Gibbs
 Gohmert
 Gonzalez (OH)
 Gooden
 Gosar
 Granger
 Graves (GA)
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hagedorn
 Harris
 Hartzler
 Hern, Kevin
 Herrera Beutler
 Hice (GA)
 Higgins (LA)
 Hill (AR)
 Holding
 Hollingsworth
 Horn, Kendra S.
 Hudson
 Huizenga
 Hunter
 Hurd (TX)
 Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)

NOT VOTING—12

Jones
 LaMalfa
 Marino
 Massie

Mast
 McEachin
 Payne
 Radewagen

Rooney (FL)
 San Nicolas
 Sensenbrenner
 Wilson (FL)

Rogers (KY)
 Rose, John W.
 Rouzer
 Roy
 Rutherford
 Scalise
 Schweikert
 Scott, Austin
 Shimkus
 Simpson
 Slotkin
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smucker
 Spano
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Stewart
 Stivers
 Taylor
 Thompson (PA)
 Thornberry
 Timmons
 Tipton
 Turner
 Upton
 Van Drew
 Wagner
 Walberg
 Walden
 Walker
 Walorski
 Waltz
 Watkins
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Williams
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yoho
 Young
 Zeldin

Mr. PENCE, Ms. SLOTKIN, Messrs. CRAWFORD, UPTON, MCKINLEY, and Ms. GRANGER changed their vote from "aye" to "no."

So the amendment was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR. There being no further amendments, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE) having assumed the chair, Ms. PLASKETT, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 268) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 43, she reported the bill, as amended by that resolution, back to the House with sundry further amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any further amendment reported from the

□ 1726

Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. DUNN. Yes, in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Dunn moves to recommit the bill H.R. 268 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Strike title XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, this motion to recommit strikes title 12 from the bill, H.R. 268. This was inserted by Democratic leadership at the eleventh hour today. Title 12 is a continuing resolution, meaning it will never be taken up or passed by the Senate; it will never be signed by the President.

Three months ago, Hurricane Michael devastated north Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. Five months ago, Hurricane Florence caused severe damage in all of the Carolinas. Wildfires in California, all fall long, caused billions of dollars in damage and took almost 100 lives. Typhoons and volcanos in Hawaii and the American trust territories also caused savage destruction. Disaster victims across the Nation are in dire need of our help right now.

Today, we will be voting on a bill that we had been told would be a stand-alone emergency funding bill, addressing only the 2018 disasters, unencumbered by hot button, divisive issues. Unfortunately, we are voting on a very different bill. House Democrat leadership pulled a bait-and-switch at the last minute and made this otherwise good bill into an attack on President Trump.

Madam Speaker, my people at home are hurting. I worked hard on this bill. I truly believed that we were having a good faith conversation on how to help suffering victims all across our Nation.

Instead, House Democrats chose to play political games rather than help our victims. They knew full well, when they inserted this poison pill continuing resolution at the eleventh hour, that they doomed any chance of this bill passing the Senate, and yet they did just that. It is now dead on arrival in the Senate.

I have people back home, in my district, sleeping in tents, in the cold, in the rain, because FEMA housing has not yet arrived.

I lost two hospitals. One was a level two trauma center. That has never happened in the history of the country.

I have sheriff's deputies who are homeless, but they are still working. They are still performing their duties. They are still protecting and serving the people. You would like to think that Congress could follow their example.

Madam Speaker, the people of America have lost a great deal of faith in their government over the years. But the one thing that they still believe in is that when a disaster strikes, their government will come to their aid. And now we are letting them down on even that simple promise.

I won't allow the people of north Florida, suffering after Hurricane Michael, to be used as political pawns against the President. That is why I urge all Members of this House to support the motion to recommit. We can remove the bitterly divisive part of this bill and pass a truly bipartisan, compassionate bill that provides urgently needed relief to millions of people across all of our Nation and our territories, who are desperate for that relief. After we address this disaster, we can work on a compromise to address border security and reopen the rest of the government.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, in fact, I am not even sure I heard correctly. Trump, the President, opposes the dollar amount in the bill because the only emergency is building the wall? Did I hear that correctly, my friends?

Madam Speaker, this shutdown, frankly, has gone on long enough. Perhaps, my good friends don't know the people who are suffering, who are living paycheck to paycheck and who have to worry about taking care of their kids. It is really puzzling to me that a statement like that is being made tonight.

My friends, this shutdown has gone on long enough. This motion to recommit would only further prolong the shutdown and the suffering and the people who are really victims of this action.

The bill we are voting on today is very similar to the same package that my Republican colleagues voted on back on December 21.

H.R. 268 provides disaster relief to those communities affected by hurricanes, wildfires, typhoons, other natural disasters, and it funds the entire government through February 8. In fact, this package provides even more relief to those disaster-affected communities following the adoption of the bipartisan and Republican amendments here today. The only component that is not in this package that my friends on the other side of the aisle voted for in

December is the President's wall money.

So, to use this MTR to further delay the government, this doesn't make any sense to me at all, because this package being delayed is unconscionable. Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose the motion to recommit, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 5-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the passage of the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 193, noes 231, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 38]

AYES—193

Abraham	Fleischmann	Loudermilk
Aderholt	Flores	Lucas
Allen	Fortenberry	Luetkemeyer
Amash	Foxx (NC)	Marchant
Amodei	Fulcher	Marshall
Armstrong	Gaetz	McCarthy
Arrington	Gallagher	McCaul
Babin	Gianforte	McClintock
Bacon	Gibbs	McHenry
Baird	Gohmert	McKinley
Balderson	Gonzalez (OH)	Meadows
Banks	Gooden	Meuser
Barr	Gosar	Miller
Bergman	Granger	Mitchell
Biggs	Graves (GA)	Moolenaar
Bilirakis	Graves (LA)	Mooney (WV)
Bishop (UT)	Graves (MO)	Mullin
Bost	Green (TN)	Newhouse
Brady	Griffith	Norman
Brooks (AL)	Grothman	Nunes
Brooks (IN)	Guest	Olson
Buchanan	Guthrie	Palazzo
Buck	Hagedorn	Palmer
Bucshon	Harris	Pence
Budd	Hartzler	Perry
Burchett	Hern, Kevin	Posey
Burgess	Herrera Beutler	Ratcliffe
Byrne	Hice (GA)	Reed
Calvert	Higgins (LA)	Reschenthaler
Carter (GA)	Hill (AR)	Rice (SC)
Carter (TX)	Holding	Riggleman
Chabot	Hollingsworth	Roby
Cheney	Hudson	Rodgers (WA)
Cline	Huizenga	Roe, David P.
Cloud	Hunter	Rogers (AL)
Cole	Hurd (TX)	Rogers (KY)
Collins (GA)	Johnson (LA)	Rose, John W.
Collins (NY)	Johnson (OH)	Rouzer
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Roy
Conaway	Jordan	Rutherford
Cook	Joyce (OH)	Scalise
Crawford	Joyce (PA)	Schweikert
Crenshaw	Katko	Scott, Austin
Curtis	Kelly (MS)	Shimkus
Davidson (OH)	Kelly (PA)	Simpson
Davis, Rodney	King (IA)	Smith (MO)
DesJarlais	King (NY)	Smith (NE)
Diaz-Balart	Kinzinger	Smith (NJ)
Duffy	Kustoff (TN)	Smucker
Duncan	LaHood	Spano
Dunn	LaMalfa	Stauber
Emmer	Lamborn	Stefanik
Estes	Latta	Steil
Ferguson	Lesko	Steube
Fitzpatrick	Long	Stewart

Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Wagner
Walberg

Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

Speier
Stanton
Stefanik
Stevens
Suozi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib

Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela

Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Yarmuth

NOES—231

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)

Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlihan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowe y
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Murphy
Nadler
Napoli tano
Neal
Neguse

Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrier
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Evans
Finkenauer

NOT VOTING—9

Mast
Payne
Rooney (FL)
Sensenbrenner
Welch
Wilson (FL)

□ 1747

Mr. LAMB changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 237, nays 187, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 39]

YEAS—237

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cummings
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)

Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Poster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlihan
Hoyer
Huffman
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowe y
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski

Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy
Nadler
Napoli tano
Neal
Neguse

NAYS—187

Abraham
Aderholt
Allen
Amash
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxy (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs

Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes

Oison
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose, John W.
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—9

Chu, Judy
Jones
Marino
Massie
Mast
Payne
Rooney (FL)
Sensenbrenner
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1754

So the bill was passed.
The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:
Mr. MASSIE. Madam Speaker, for final passage of H.R. 268, the Supplemental Appropriations Act, I am not recorded because I was

absent on account of attending a U.S. Army Basic Combat Training graduation ceremony.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 39.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.J. RES. 28, FURTHER ADDITIONAL CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Ms. SCANLON, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 116-3) on the resolution (H. Res. 52) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 28) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO TERRORISTS WHO THREATEN TO DISRUPT THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-7)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995, with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process, is to continue in effect beyond January 23, 2019.

The crisis with respect to grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that led to the declaration of a national emergency on January 23, 1995, has not been resolved. Terrorist groups continue to engage in activities that have the purpose or effect of threatening the Middle East peace process and that are hostile to United States interests in the region. Such actions continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States.

Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12947 with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process and to maintain in force the sanctions against them to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 16, 2019.

□ 1800

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer a resolution previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 53

Whereas the United States has always been a proud multicultural Nation;

Whereas since early in our history our Nation has recognized the strength that our diversity brings by making our national motto *E Pluribus Unum*;

Whereas on July 13, 2006, on the floor of the House of Representatives, comparing immigrants to livestock, Representative Steve King of Iowa stated, "We could also electrify this wire with the kind of current that would not kill somebody, but it would simply be a discouragement for them to be fooling around with it. We do that with livestock all the time.";

Whereas on March 8, 2008, in an interview with KICD Studios, Representative King stated, "I don't want to disparage anyone because of their race, their ethnicity, their name—whatever their religion their father might have been. . . . I'll just say this: When you think about the optics of a Barack Obama potentially getting elected President of the United States—I mean, what does this look like to the rest of the world? What does it look like to the world of Islam?";

Whereas on May 21, 2012, while speaking with constituents in Pocahontas, Iowa, Representative King compared vetting immigrants to choosing hunting dogs saying, "You want a good bird dog? You want one that's going to be aggressive? Pick the one that's the friskiest.";

Whereas in July 2012, at a tele-townhall, on President Barack Obama's place of birth, Representative King stated, "It would have been awfully hard to fraudulently file the birth notice of Barack Obama being born in Hawaii and get that into our public libraries and that microfiche they keep of all the newspapers published. That doesn't mean there aren't some other explanations on how they might've announced that by telegram from Kenya. The list goes on. But drilling into that now, even if we could get a definitive answer and even if it turned out that Barack Obama was conclusively not born in America, I don't think we could get that case sold between now and November.";

Whereas on January 4, 2013, in a press release announcing the introduction of his bill, H.R. 140, Representative King stated, "The current practice of extending U.S. citizenship to hundreds of thousands of 'anchor babies' must end because it creates a magnet for illegal immigration into our country. Now is the time to ensure that the laws in this country do not encourage law breaking.";

Whereas on July 24, 2014, in an interview with Newsmax discussing undocumented im-

migrants in the United States, Representative King stated, "For everyone who's a val-edictorian, there's another 100 out there who weigh 130 pounds—and they've got calves the size of cantaloupes because they're hauling 75 pounds of marijuana across the desert.";

Whereas on July 20, 2016, in an interview with The Washington Post, Representative King stated, "The idea of multiculturalism, that every culture is equal—that's not objectively true.";

Whereas on July 18, 2016, in an appearance on MSNBC, Representative King stated, "Where did any other subgroup of people contribute more to civilization [than White people]?";

Whereas on September 18, 2016, on Twitter, Representative King stated, that "Cultural suicide by demographic transformation must end.";

Whereas on March 12, 2017, on Twitter, Representative King shared a story about far-right Dutch politician Geert Wilders and added, "We can't restore our civilization with somebody else's babies.";

Whereas on March 13, 2017, on CNN, Representative King stated, "I'd like to see an America that's just so homogenous that we look a lot the same" and "There's been this effort, we're going to have to replace that void with somebody else's babies. That's the push to bring in [so] much illegal immigration into America, living in enclaves, refusing to assimilate into the American culture and civilization.";

Whereas on June 12, 2018, Representative King retweeted Mark Collett, a self-described "Nazi sympathizer";

Whereas on September 2, 2018, in an interview with *Unzensuriert*, a publication linked to a fascist Austrian political party, Representative King stated, "What does this diversity bring that we don't already have? Mexican food, Chinese food, those things—well, that's fine. But what does it bring that we don't have that is worth the price? We have a lot of diversity within the U.S. already.";

Whereas on January 10, 2019, in the *New York Times*, Representative King stated "White nationalist, White supremacist, Western civilization—how did that language become offensive?";

Whereas Representative King's statements have drawn praise from known White supremacists like former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke;

Whereas Representative King dishonors not only immigrants but every American with his racist and xenophobic rhetoric; and

Whereas Representative King has failed to retract his statement and apologize to the Members of the House

or Americans across the country: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) Representative Steve King of Iowa, by his despicable conduct, has dishonored himself and brought discredit to the House and merits the censure of the House for the same;

(2) Representative Steve King of Iowa be censured;

(3) Representative Steve King of Iowa forthwith present himself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure; and

(4) Representative Steve King of Iowa be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution presents a question of privilege.

MOTION TO REFER

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.